



The Bullsheet

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

The Texas DX Society, Houston TX K5DX@tdxs.net November 2022

**The December meeting will be in person at
Tracey Gee
December 15th
Please try to come!**

Editor's Note by Allen Brier N5XZ

The amount of DX activity continues to increase along with the sunspot numbers. And DXpeditions have been on the increase as well. Just in the last month or two, In October I've seen C91, TX7 (FO-M), EP, D6, HZ, 7X, 4U, 3C, 5Z4, 3D2, 7Q, ZD7, 5R, AP, TY and 5V; November gave us J28, 5V, JD1, P29, FK8, VK9(C). A35, T8, 7Q, T3, D4, 3X, TL, ZD7, AP and CN. Compared to what I think a lot of us are used to, that was an incredible amount of DX, often with simultaneous multiple DXpeditions. And we still have a long ways to go to the peak of the cycle! Not to mention Bouvet Island coming up in January or February!

Contest activity has been increasing as well, and we are well into the contest season. Don't forget that the 10 meter contest is coming up in December, one of my favorites!

I hope you guys are enjoying activity and now that summer is over, the bands will also be quieter (even if my line noise comes and goes) but overall things are much better .

Don't forget we are going to meet next month at Tracey Gee on the 15th. I will be great to see more of the members face to face.

Inside this issue:

TDXS Elected Officer Nomination Period Has Begun	2
The Prez Sez by ?	3
Secretary Report by Doug W9LCQ	4
DX Chairman's Report by?	5
Contest Chairman's Report by Jim N5DTT	6
Where in the World? by Ron K5HM	9
Texas DX Society DX & Contesting Roundtable	10
Trip to Malta by Michael Go-ins WW5WM	12
TDXS Get together at Red River BBQ Nov. 19th	13
TDXS Board Members/ Birthdays	14



TDXS Elected Officer Nomination Period Has Begun

Fellow TDXS members,

The nomination period for the 2023 elected officers opened with the September meeting. The TDXS elected officer positions are: President, VP-Meetings, VP-Membership and Secretary/Treasurer. This opportunity is open to all 51 Active TDXS members. To date we have only 1 nomination for VP Membership, 1 nomination for Secretary/Treasurer and zero nominations for President or VP-Meetings. As per our club Constitution, the nomination period ends with the October meeting, which is on October 20. At that time nominations can be made from the floor, after which active members can vote by private email before the November meeting. Any positions having only one nominee shall be considered to have been elected by acclamation.

The TDXS club has gone for the past 2 years without a President or VP-Meetings. This is frankly inexcusable. I am willing to run again for President (I was President from 2011-2013) if someone will step forward and volunteer to be the Secretary/Treasurer. Any takers?

73,

Doug W9LCQ
TDXS Secretary/Treasurer



The Prez Sez by ????????

We are still looking for someone to step of to be TDXS president...how about you?



TDXS Meeting Minutes by Doug Seyler W9LCQ

TDXS October 2022 Meeting Minutes

Date: October 20, 2022

Location: ZOOM Virtual Meeting

The September TDXS Meeting was over ZOOM. There were 14 participants: Doug W9LCQ, Allen N5XZ, Orville K5VWW, Dale KG5U, Robie AJ4F, Keith NM5G, Chris KG5BBF, Gerald N5KT, Jim N5DTT, Dan KS5V, Michael K5WRN, Ben NE5B, Steve W9DX, Norm N9MM.

Agenda:

Election of officers for 2023. Three positions had only one nominee, so they were elected by acclamation:

Secretary – Doug W9LCQ

Treasurer – Keith NM5G

VP-Membership – Gerald K9GEM

There were no nominees for President or VP-Meetings

Keith NM5G gave an update on the results of the 2022 Texas QSO Party

Program – Orville K5VWW and Doug W9LCQ gave a presentation of their first Parks on the Air (POTA) activation. They went to Stephen F. Austin state park, near Sealy, TX. They made approx. 150 contacts, mainly on CW, with a few SSB and FT8 contacts thrown in. The video of the meeting is available through the TDXS website, under News > YouTube Channel > TDXS Monthly Meeting October 20, 2022.

Submitted October 13, 2022

Doug Seyler W9LCQ

TDXS Secretary/Treasurer



DX Chairman's Report—OPEN

Looking for a new DX Chairman, any volunteers?

Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

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

November

- 5 ARRL Sweepstakes, CW
- 12 WAE DX Contest RTTY
- 10-10 International Fall Digital Contest
- JIDX Phone Contest
- OK/OM DX Contests, CW
- 19 ARRL Sweepstakes, SSB
- 26 CQ WW DX Contest, CW

December

- 2 ARRL 160-Meter Contest
- 10 ARRL 10-Meter Contest
- 17 RAC Winter Contest
- Russian 160-Meter Contest

TDXS members participated in several contests in October. Here is their score information as reported in the 3830scores.com website.

South Dakota QSO Party 2022 Oct 8

SO FixedCW HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AF5J		30	0	0	22	6	1,420	TDXS
K5TIA		26	0	0	20	7	1,040	TDXS

Pennsylvania QSO Party 2022 Oct 8

SOCW HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA		94	0	41	12	7,708	TDXS
AF5J		67	0	28	9	4,152	TDXS



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

Arizona QSO Party 2022 Oct 8

SOCW HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	CW Mults	Ph Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA		47	0	25	0	7	2,350	TDXS
AF5J		41	0	23	0	7	1,986	TDXS

Nevada QSO Party 2022 Oct 8

SOCW HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA		9	0	0	7	3	168	TDXS
AF5J		5	0	0	4	4	60	TDXS

New York QSO Party 2022 Oct 15

SOCW HP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	Ph Qs	Dig Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AF5J		106	0	0	35	8:40	7,420	TDXS
K5TIA		83	0	0	26	7	4,316	TDXS

Worked All Germany Contest 2022 Oct 15

SO CW LP

Call	Remote	CW Qs	SSB Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
W5GCX		31	0	18	2	1,674	TDXS

Illinois QSO Party 2022 Oct 16

Fixed HP

Call	Remote	CW-Dig Qs	Ph Qs	Mults	Op Time	Score	Club
AF5J		109	0	47	7:51	10,246	TDXS
K5TIA		85	0	37	8	6,290	TDXS



Contest Chairman Report—by Jim Burrough N5DTT

CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB 2022 Oct 29

SO(A)AB HP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Zones	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
K5TIA		296	63	130	12	150,926	TDXS
K5TU		106	26	78	3.75	31,408	TDXS

SOAB HP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Zones	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
W5GCX		371	73	159	14	238,496	TDXS
N5EKO		112	42	68	10	32,780	TDXS

SOAB LP

<u>Call</u>	<u>Remote</u>	QSOs	Zones	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
AJ4F		126	47	76		41,820	TDXS

SOSB10 HP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Zones	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
W5PR		1205	29	104		415226	TDXS

SOSB10 LP

Call	Remote	QSOs	Zones	Countries	Op Time	Score	Club
N5DTT		79	16	39	7.5	11,495	TDXS

Have a good month, contesting as much as you have the time for.

Jim, N5DTT



Where in the World—By Ron Litt K5HM



Fogo is the largest of the offshore Canada islands of Newfoundland and Labrador. Fogo island encompasses the Town of Fogo encompasses the communities of Joe Batt's Arm, Seldom, Little Seldom and eight others, oddly named communities. The island had a population of 2,244 in the [2016 census](#).

The Flat Earth Society of Canada named Fogo one of the four corners of the Earth. It is an island attached to an island attached to the mainland. The closest commercial airport is Gander, Newfoundland, which is even further north. From Gander it is a three-hour drive to the Fogo car ferry. Stepping off the ferry onto the island is like stepping into another dimension.

Fogo Island is not so much a place as a state of mind. With a long maritime history, it's a world of bright-colored houses, sea-cliff footpaths, lush forest, and warm hospitality. The island's 11 settlements are locat-

ed along the rocky coast. The annual Great Fogo Island Punt Race to There and Back takes place in July and August.

The ferry runs seven days a week but is occasionally canceled for maintenance. Never fear, there is no lack of places to visit. You can start at Stag Harbor, drive to Seldom, and from the center of the island you can visit the village of Joe Batt's Arm.

Punts have been a fulcrum of life since Europeans chasing cod settled on the island, which had previously been used in summer months by the indigenous Beothuk people. Without roads or motorized vehicles, the punt was key to transportation. Locals used the utilitarian vessels to get to church or appointments, to collect mail and groceries, to pick up their dates, and, most critically, to hunt and fish.

In 1911, a Marconi Company radio station was once operational atop a hill near the town of Fogo; operating with a spark-gap transmitter to establish maritime communications. The station was forced to close around the time that radio became common for household use as the spark-gap design generated unacceptable levels of radio interference. Efforts to rebuild this station as a [historic site](#) commenced in 2002. It opened in 2007 as a museum.

The most recent DXpedition was conducted in 2014 when K4KGG/VO! Operated for four days in August. No record of their possible participation in the annual Punt Race to There and Back.



Where in the World—By Ron Litt K5HM

Sovereign Military Order of Malta (1A) CQ Zone 15 ITU Zone 28



This DXCC entity is unique in that it occupies only two buildings in the city of Rome, Italy. Its headquarters are recognized by the Italian government as sovereign territory. The Sovereign Military Order of Malta (SMOM) is a sovereign subject of international law, with its own constitution, passports, stamps, and public institutions. The 79th Grand Master, Fra' Matthew Festing was elected Head of the Order for life on March 11th, 2008. The Order has diplomatic relations with 104 countries – many of which are non-Catholic –and missions to major European countries, as well as to European and international organizations. The Order of Malta is neutral, impartial, and nonpolitical.

While the International Telecommunication Union has granted radio identification prefixes to similar quasi-sovereign jurisdictions like the United Nations and the Palestinian Authority, SMOM has never received one. For awards purposes, amateur radio operators consider SMOM to be a separate "entity." Stations transmitting from there use an entirely unofficial call sign, starting with the prefix "1A".

SMOM is the modern continuation of the original medieval order of Saint John of Jerusalem and later as the Knights Hospitaller. The group was founded in Jerusalem around the year 1050 as a hospital to provide care for poor and sick pilgrims to the Holy Land. After the loss of Christian held territories of the Holy Land, the order operated from the island of Rhodes (1310–1523), and later from Malta (1530–1798). Though this state came to an end with the ejection of the order from Malta by Napoleon Bonaparte, it retains its claims of sovereignty over Malta under international law and has been granted permanent observer status at the United Nations.

According to Club Log, 1A0 is the 93rd most wanted DX entity. Most amateur radio activity in 1A comes from DXpedition in conjunction with the Order's charitable activities. The last planned Activity was from a team in July 2019

Reporting from the Dark Side
Ron Litt K5HM



Texas DX Society DX & Contesting Roundtable

The Texas DX Society is focused promoting working DX and Contesting. We aspire to promote these activities in many ways. One primary way is to distribute information about at what time and frequency are DX stations active and the scheduled dates and times of upcoming contests. This information is distributed via our K5DX DX Cluster, through the BullSheet and our email list (Reflector). We've recently added a new "channel" the TDXS DX & Contesting Roundtable. This is a traditional VHF FM net held using our K5DX 147.360/960 repeater. The Roundtable is open to all hams, and you don't need to be a TDXS member to participate. The Roundtable is held on Wednesday nights at 8:00 PM local time. The format is simple. The net control station will call for check ins and record those stations. After the list is complete, he will begin asking the stations who checked in what is happening for them. This is your chance to discuss what DX you are hearing/working, your contest plans or to ask questions regarding these topics. Technical questions or request for assistance are also welcome. Each station will get a turn and comments or feedback from other participants is welcome. Just remember this is a controlled net and the net control station will coordinate the activity.

This is an experiment to encourage activity by members and to put our club in front of the broader ham population in the Houston area. We need net control station volunteers as well. This an easy way to support the TDXS! This is a suggested preamble for the net control station to follow.

Your feedback is needed. What's working, what's not working, improvement ideas, etc. Please post your feedback on the TDXS email list (reflector).

Preamble

Wednesday Nights – 8:00 PM local time

K5DX repeater

147.360/960 tone 100 Hz

QST QST QST this is <your call sign> net control for the weekly Texas DX Society DX/Contesting Roundtable.

This Roundtable is open to everyone, you DO NOT need to be a TDXS member to participate

We will yield to anyone needing to use the repeater for emergency purposes, please identify yourself and state that you have an emergency

I'll call for check ins and when the list of check ins is complete, I'll proceed with stations in the order of check in.



Trip to Malta by Michael Goins WW5WM

Thought this might be of interest to someone.

Spent eleven days in Malta, a really interesting combination of cultures, and brought back salt from some of the salt pans built there by the Phoenicians and Romans that are still in use daily. From a radio standpoint, the world really sounds much different from 6,000 miles away, with Europe very loud and the east coast and some Middle East as well as a few JAs coming in even on poorer propagation days (if you planned the operating hours right). Operated mostly 20 meters (and a bit on 40) and not for too long as we were on a tight schedule, but the club triband beam at maybe 30 feet was more than adequate when the band was open and there was someone at the club station. Ivan, 9h1pi, was a tremendous help both before and after arriving, and I operated the club station with the club call as well as a little qrp as 9H/WW5WM. European DX was easy with 1-3 watts cw or ssb, but my portable antennas were a bit lacking for other DX, although I did work a few US stations and other DX from Malta qrp as 10 was getting really sporadic. While visiting the club station, I had the honor of meeting 9h2av (Andrew), 9h1at (George), 9h1es (Furtu), 9h5ap (Albert), and 9h5oo (Edgar). Really nice guys all around, and all were a bit flabbergasted that I have ten acres here as most Maltese have very small patios and courtyards/rooftops and no other outside areas. It was amazingly safe, and I saw older people and women walking around late at night with no issues as well as the typical Italian older women with chairs pulled up late in the evening to chat at the edges of the streets. Many of the roads are literally the width of one car and just a little, so we did the local equivalent of UBER (BOLT) most of the time and it was both cheap and quick. No one seems to take stop signs as more than a suggestion, although traffic lights seems to stop everyone okay and with the driving on the wrong side of the road, the BOLT arrangement was perfect. Food was amazing, as the island, though small, is full of outstanding restaurants with Italian, Indian, French, etc. influence and many near-Michelin star restaurants all over. Gozu, the next island that is also a part of Malta, was slower and less sophisticated, and both the Mediterranean and the music available everywhere could not have been more perfect. Had a BOLT driver drop us off on the side of the street when she couldn't find our B&B the second night, a little run-in with a truck going the wrong way backward up a street while on Segways that got a tad exciting, and a few other things that made the trip "interesting," but overall, it was very enjoyable.



TDXS Get Together at Red River BBQ November 19, 2022



8 members of TDXS met for lunch at the Red River BBQ and Grill in Katy, Texas on November 19, 2022.

They were (left to right):

Allen N5XZ, Doug W9LCQ, Orville K5VWW, Gerald N5KT, Kim K5TU (hidden), Jim N5DTT, Scott K5DD and Glenn WB5TUF. The gas valve to the furnace was not working so there was no heat in the place, which is why we all had our jackets on. The BBQ, hamburgers and gumbo were great as usual!



Texas DX Society Board members

President	STILL OPEN!	
VP Membership	Gerald Muller	gmuller885@aol.com
VP Programs	STILL OPEN!	
Secretary	Doug Seyler, W9LCQ	djseyler at comcast.net
Treasurer	Doug Seyler, W9LCQ	djseyler at comcast.net
Contest Chairman	Jim Burrough, N5DTT	jandpburrough at sbcglobal.net
Field Day Chairman	Allen Brier, N5XZ	n5xz at arrl.net
Repeater Chairman	Glenn Anderson, WB5TUF	wb5tuf at arrl.net
DX Chairman	STILL OPEN!	
Outgoing QSL Manager	Scott Patout, K5DD	k5dd at arrl.net
Webmaster	Scott Patout, K5DD	k5dd at arrl.net
Bullsheets Editor	Allen Brier, N5XZ	n5xz at arrl.net

DXCC/WAZ/WAS QSL Card Checker	Bob Walworth, N5ET	rwalworth at charter.net
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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 November:

Please notify the Editor if I have missed any-one or of any updates:

Keith Huges - KA5F
 Tom Ashworth - N5EA
 Charles Brues - N5AM
 Robert McWhorter - K5PFE
 Chuck Dietz - W5PR
 John Davis - KN5T
 Bill Eckenrode - W5SG
 Bob Chmielewski - N5PJI
 Bruce Meier - N1LN
 Ed Gerber - W5GCX
 Don Mayhall - N5DM

Don Daze - N5DD
 Matt Thomas - WX5S
 Willis "Cookie" Cooke - K5EWJ
 Jim Burrough - N5DTT
 Leonard Cernuch - WD5DAY
 Jim Burroughs - N5DTT
 Mark Tyler - K5GQ