



# THE BULL SHEET

## OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN OF

### THE TEXAS DX SOCIETY

an ARRL affiliated club

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MEETING NOTICE: The next TDXS meeting will be the "biggie," the annual Banquet. Friday, December 15, 1978, at the Greenwood Forest Club. It promises to be the best ever, but you gotta have your reservations ahead of time. If you (or a guest) haven't received your invite yet, give John, K5JS a call and get the paperwork going; confirmations and maps will be sent to you in the mail.

HALF-TIME IN THE CONTESTS: The contest season is about half over and it's been wild and wooly. The Sweepstakes was a disappointment to the 5th district with both coasts running wild on 10 and 15. It looks like the W5's will do well to crack the top 20 on either mode. The CQWW Phone weekend saw big openings on the high bands, leading to some record breaking scores. Eastern Europe was not uncommon on 10, sprinkled with Middle East and some nice JA runs. The CW weekend was another letdown. The sunspots went to pot a few days before the test, leaving 10 and 15 marginal and the low bands fell prey to the thunderstorms. The 160 test also suffered from QRN and, as of press time, the 10M contest hasn't happened yet.

If you got in any time at all, please get your log sheets in to the magazine and get a copy to A1, K5BZU. Your score could make a difference in the club standings. If you need help with your logs, A1 will be glad to assist.

FIELD DAY: K5DX/5 made a very respectable second place showing in the 1978 4A class. There have been some long faces among the FD stalwarts because we didn't win, but, there is no room for gloom. We did an outstanding job as a club and we accomplished exactly what we set out to do; the best job we could with everyone getting a chance to operate. The absence of a novice station probably kept us from the nr 1 spot. That notwithstanding, we still turned in one of the best FD efforts in the country.

PROBLEMS AT NEWINGTON: The ARRL "Queen of Contests", Ellen White, W1YL and her husband, "Mr. DX", Bob White, W1CW, have resigned from the ARRL after over two decades of service to Ham Radio. They both have been close friends and they will be missed. In a conversation with our recently re-elected Director, W5GM, Jack cited personal problems as the motivating force behind their resignations. Since that time, Bob Myers, W1XT (W1FBY) has also resigned as Assistant GM while the other Assistant GM, K1ZZ, is busy with WARC preparations, the Headquarters is in a real need of experienced Management help. Lets hope they survive the crises and overcome!

THE GREAT TDXS CONTEST is underway. Complete rules were distributed in the last Bullsheet, so if you havent got a copy, get one from K5NA and get in the horserace(the paper chase?)The claimed country status will be compiled by K5NA and published in each Bullsheet. If you would like your score to be listed, get the info to Richard by the 30th of Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept and a final tally by the November meeting of next year. Don't let the numbers dampen your spirits. Theres over ten months to go and it's the QSL's that count in the final tally. The following is Worked/Confirmed for the three modes of entry as of press time:

<u>CALL</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>CW</u>	<u>MIXED</u>
K5NA	111/1	89/0	135/1
K5MA	99/0	116/0	131/0
K5FP	0/0	84/0	84/0
K5YCP	52/1	3/0	54/1
N5DU	10/1	45/2	48/2
W5DOZ	29/0	17/0	46/0
K5TU	26/1	17/0	38/1
K5WA	28/0	6/0	37/0
K5RC	6/1	5/0	10/1
K5GN	4/0	4/2	6/2

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS: Speaking of horseraces, we've got one going this year for TDXS officers. There's a runoff ballot in the mail to you to decide the outcome. Please get it back to John by December 14 so we can announce and install the new officers at the Banquet.

THE COUNCIL OF RADIO CLUBS: has been under discussion and formation for the last few months and a "final" draft of the bylaws is in the works, and a special mailing will be made after the first of the year with a synopsis of the bylaws and the Board of Directors comments and recommendations. There will be ample opportunity for membership discussion and comments to make sure that the Council will have a solid foundation and the support it needs to succeed. In the meantime, an "ad-hoc" independent committee has been formed to lay the groundwork for the 1979 ARRL West Gulf Convention. Should the Council be empowered, the committee would be absorbed at some later date, if not, the ad-hoc committee would formalize to run the convention. If you are interested in working on the convention, contact K5MA or K5RC. The group needs ideas and help.

TOMS SHORTS: Don't forget the deadlines for getting contest logs in. After all that work, don't leave them on the desk. The SS deadline is 12/11 and CQ Phone is passed while CQ CW is January 15. K5KG is collecting slides of TDXSers activities over the last year to be shown at the Banquet. If you have any you want included, get them to George or bring them to the Banquet. In case we don't see you at the Banquet, best wishes for the Holiday Season from Vera, the Boys and Me and may 1979 be prosperous and happy for all.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS: WB5USV underwent a trip to the hospital but is back home and returned to the airwaves. Hope your'e feeling better, Mike. K5MA made a trip to Iran and then relaxed with a trip to XE3, trying for WAC the hard way. WB5MYO was back home from Saudia Arabia on vacation, travelling around the country on his new motorcycle. Marshall is looking to come home at the earliest opportunity. The sand and sun is getting to him! Anyone who missed working N5DU and his three tape recorders in Phone SS really missed a great feat of technology. WA5TMN and N5ZR have defected from College Station and are coming to Houston to work at NASA. Welcome to civilization, fellas.

K5WA finally has one of his towers up with a 40 and a TH6. Now if he can cure his TVI, he'll be in business. AA5Y also has added a 40 meter beam and replaced his monobanders with a Telerelex tribander. K5NU is trying to collect information on some of his overdue and hard to get QSL cards. It sounds like Mike is in the same boat as most DXers and this is probably a good Club project. Do you have any ideas on how we can compile this data and make it available to members?

CLUB COMMUNICATION: It is certainly nothing new that a sizeable portion of the TDXS membership resides outside the greater Houston area. In years past, we used to get together almost nightly on 75 and keep current on each others activities. Recently, however, 2 meters has become the primary mode of intra-club communications, which automatically leaves out the members outside repeater range. With the day to day activities consuming so much of our time, those get togethers on 75 have all but vanished and some of the out-of-town members are losing contact with the club and with current events. There has been some research going on to the feasibility of a troposcatter link with the repeater and members outside the area. There is also the possibility of reviving the nightly get togethers on 75 or perhaps, picking a night and frequency to get on and chat. We are open to ideas and are looking for someone to spearhead this activity. With the TDXS intra club competition underway, this sounds like an excellent time to establish communications links with as much of the membership as possible.

SOME FINAL NOTES: The tentative agenda for the banquet is: Happy Hour-7PM; Dinner-8PM; Business Meeting-9PM; Fun and frivolity-10PM until???

We will announce the dates for the 1979 TDXS meetings (and other major events) at the Banquet. Once again, we will divide up the city by the membership population to determine the "odd-month" meeting locations. If you would like to host an odd-month meeting, speak up at the Banquet. If you are unhappy and have some constructive suggestions for the central location meetings, please make them known at that time.

It's time for a moment of reflection, once again, to say "where the hell has this year gone." Each of us is a year older and hopefully a little wiser. We have individually and collectively had a few triumphs and a few tragedies. We've enjoyed growth and prosperity and we've suffered under the inflationary spiral. We've sat in awe of mankind's accomplishments and have been shocked by its self destructive destiny. With all that is going on around us, I sometimes wonder how we keep on going, but we somehow we survive. As we get ready for the Holidays and embark on a new year, each of us, in our own way renews whatever it is that motivates us, as humans, to persist and go forward. Two thoughts that I would like to leave with you for the new year are: Have the courage to change that which you can, have the patience to accept that which you cannot and have the wisdom to know the difference; And; remember that in this crazy world with all its misery, we have a fraternal hobby and a group of friends that is just a little bit different and special. There is no other group of people in the world that has the bond that Hams have. Let's hope we can keep it that way through 1979.

73 and DX

Tom, K5RC