



The Bullsheet

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

The Texas DX Society, Houston TX K5DX@tdxs.net December 2016

Monthly Meeting at the [Tracey Gee Center](#): Dec 8 - 7:00PM

3599 Westcenter Dr., Houston TX 77042

**Program: Preparation for Nicaragua DXpedition by
Keith Dutson NM5G.**

Editor's Note by Allen N5XZ

December is here and the bands continue to get quieter. As I write this, the CQ WW CW contest is recent history, and while I wasn't able to spend as much time as I would have liked, I did score about 6 or 8 new ones on 80 (the only band I operated with my call). As a result, I was able to finally hit the 2400 mark in the DXCC Challenge award (see <http://www.arrl.org/dxcc-challenge>). I hope someday soon to get the 2500 point medallion and someday in the future to hit 3000. Not a lot of guys get there (like Richard K5NA), but I am shooting for it! (I have a loooong way to go on 160 meters!) You can see my numbers on page 8.

It's time to think about sending in your 2017 dues, so please see Orville's info on that on page 8.

The Annual Old Codger's Meeting was in November, and unfortunately I had a conflict so I had to miss it, but it looks like a good time was had by all (I'll bet the food was great, too!) See the article with pictures starting on page 3.

This weekend is the 10 meter contest. I am sure conditions will not be as good as last year, but there will still be a lot of fun to be had, and I plan to operate it (as well as W5PR and KJ5Y and many other locals, I am sure. You can operate phone, CW or both. I usually operate CW only, but this year I might do phone if the activity level is too low. Please look for us on the bands!

The following DXCC was worked at N5XZ during the month of November: VP2E, ZL7, FK8, GU, PJ4, TZ, ZB, TL, 5R, C31, V2, 7X, 4Z,

5H, FO(A), and BY. So, even though solar activity is declining, the bands are still full of DX. Now that we are in the winter, the bands are quieter and more DX is coming through.

There will be some new board members starting in January, so stay tuned to the Bullsheet.

BTW, I am always looking for guest articles for the BS, so feel free to send them to me!!

Finally, if you didn't see it in QST, the BVARC/TDXS/Echo Field Day event was down from last year. We ranked #12 in the standings. Most of this, I think, is from antenna and other issues. We hope to regroup and get back in the top ten next year...CU then!

73, Allen N5XZ

Inside this issue:

The Prez Sez by Bob Hardie W5UQ	2
TDXS October 2016 Meeting Minutes by Doug Seyler WB5TKI	4
DX Chairman's Report by Orville Burg K5VWW	7
Contest Report by Allen Brier N5XZ	8
2017 Annual Dues Announce- ment by Orville Burg K5VWW	9
Where in the World is...KH1 by Ron Litt K5HM	10
TDXS Board Members	12
TDXS Birthdays	12

The Prez Sez by Bob, W5UQ

Prez sez for December 2016.

Last month, November, was our annual "Ole Codgers Dinner Meeting" and it was a real success. We had almost 40 attendees, lots of regular members and lots of not so regular attendees. All were in a private room at Churrasca's Brazilian Restaurant on Westheimer.

The food was EXCELLENT as was the service. I will have an example of all the food available for us to pick from in a semi-buffet style. I say semi-buffet because you go to the buffet for your salad. This is the only time you have to get up because after that, everything is brought to you, including your drinks.

After your salad is finished, if you are ready to eat meat, you turn over the card next to your plate and several waiters/waitresses start bringing in different selections of freshly cooked meats on sword type skewers. You can choose rare to well-done. And they bring broiled shrimp on a sword too. It's great. Then the staff puts various vegetables, kind of like family style, in the middle of the tables.

Talking to many of the "ole codgers" it looks like just about everyone had a great

time too. I do have to say I was impressed with the service and food, not to mention the accommodations in a private room that can hold over 50 people, I'm sure.

During the short meeting we had at the end, we discussed the January Banquet. I had made reservations at Brady's Landing, like last years. However, most everyone was in favor of having the banquet at Churrasca's. So Orville, K5VWW, who had arranged the Ole Codger's dinner meeting checked into it and they happened to have a vacancy on January 21st, 2017, a Saturday night. We reserved the same room for our TDXS Banquet from 6pm to 9pm. I will go on the TDXS forum and publish the menu and such. They sure have a good wine list and drinks too. Anything you would want, just about.

I really want to commend Orville Burg, K5VWW, for the excellent way he organized all the "Ole Codgers dinner meetings". We basically started this "tradition" during my time as president, as I recall. Well, we may have had some sporadic "ole codgers meetings", however, the success of these meetings goes to several people. And I would like to acknowledge those who made it happen.

If it had not been for Doug Seyler who helped us get the "Dinner out meetings" for every other month, the ole codgers meeting would not have gained "momentum". Doug also pushed for rewriting the TDXS Constitution, and that was another accomplishment during my administration.

And I have to say that Lance Rumfield, WD5X, was a great motivation for me to do better. He was a great VP of Programming and I felt would make a great president. However, his job has "commanded his time" and made it difficult for him to be president.

To continue: I also brought back the Board of Directors meetings during my first year of being president. Those meetings were great. They helped us be more focused on TDXS issues and allowed us to more efficiently take care of TDXS business. We had fun too. Saturday morning breakfasts. Steve Smothers, W9DX was with us then, to mention one who helped a lot.

Our BOD was a good group. We got a lot done and I LOVED IT. The meetings seemed to bring out the best in these guys. They showed that they loved TDXS too. It was GREAT!!

(continued)

The Prez Sez by Bob, W5UQ

However, I never expected to have the success of my new company come into play and take my focus off of TDXS. The new company took ALL of my time. And even though I'm retired.... or I thought I was, I found that no matter how much I wanted to focus on TDXS, time was not letting me do so.

to you all.....
or whatever. J J J

Bob Hardie W5UQ
Almost EX President TDXS
and I loved being prez.....

Anyway, my strong feeling that we needed BOD meetings to be able to organize us better to focus on TDXS issues had to take a back seat. And frankly, I hated that. It's "hell to get old", especially when getting old keeps one from doing all the things that he wants to do. And when he know that "back in his prime" he would have found a way to do BOTH. (sorry for that)

Okay... it is swan song time:
My very sincere apologies to all of you. Our TDXS members and to those that served with me. I sure had high hopes..... and hopefully "later in my retirement" maybe I will have the time to devote to my "beloved TDXS organization". It is a GREAT group of guys.... And gals too. At least a couple.

I have to say it. **A VERY HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL** and to all a good uh....well, not just a good night, but rather a WONDERFUL contest and/or just a GREAT DXing month....



TDXS Meeting Minutes by Doug Seyler WB5TKI

Old Codgers Night

Date: November 10, 2016

Location: Churrascos Brazilian Steakhouse, Houston, TX

Attendance: Members (Active and Inactive):

<u>Name</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>Member Number</u>	<u>Year Joined</u>
Richard King	K5NA	1	1971
Wes Widdon	N5WW	2	1971
Alex Stalinsky	WA5UHT	3	1971
Kim Carr	K5TU	22	1974
Wes Spence	AC5K	23	1974
John Stevens	K5JS	30	1975
Dave McCarty	K5GN	34	1975
Orville Berg	K5VWW	66	1979
Bill Eckenrode	W5SG	72	1980
Mike Davidson	N5MT	93	1982
Bob Walworth	N5ET	95	1982
Chuck Dietz	W5PR	103	1984
Mike Bragassa	K5UO	127	1991
Buzz Jehle	N5UR	141	1996
Keith Dutson	NM5G	165	2006
Doug Seyler	WB5TKI	166	2006
Scott Patout	K5DD	172	2008
Bob Hardie	W5UQ	177	2010
Curt Fletcher	WG5H	185	2015
Robie Elms	AJ4F	186	2015
Gerald Muller	K9GEM	187	2015
Nizar Mullani	K0NM	194	2016
Charles Battig	K4TY	195	2016
Rose-Marie Battig	KB4RM	196	2016



More pictures can be found at

<https://goo.gl/photos/7CbOFVKyYOxsmzrO6>



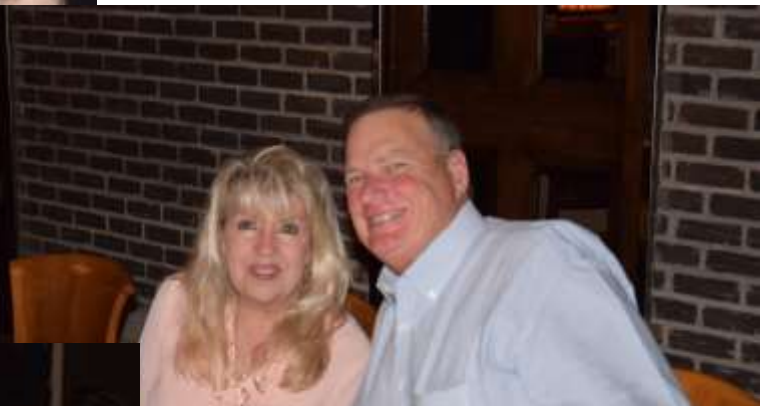
TDXS Meeting Minutes by Doug Seyler WB5TKI

Guests: Lynn Seyler (XYL of Doug WB5TKI), Janice Muller (XYL of Gerald K9GEM), Elva Hardie (XYL of Pres. Bob), Peggy Fletcher (XYL of Curt WG5H), Chris Spence, Susan King K5DU (XYL of Richard King K5NA), Ver-na Patout (XYL of Scott K5DD), Beth Dutson (XYL of Keith NM5G), Ruth Dietz (XYL of Chuck W5PR), Margie Davidson (XYL of Mike N5MT), Patricia Stalinsky (XYL of Alex WA5UHT), Mary Carr KA5EZW (XYL of Kim K5TU).

November was our annual Old Codgers Night dinner, where we encourage earlier and founding members of TDXS to attend. As can be seen from the attendance list, we had a great turnout and an outstanding cross-section of the TDXS membership from its inception in 1971 to today. That's 45 years, folks! The food at Churrascos was outstanding and the conversation was lively. If you were not in attendance you missed a special one



TDXS Meeting Minutes by Doug Seyler WB5TKI



DX Report by Orville Burg K5VWW

DX Report by Orville Burg, K5VWW

It appears that band conditions have improved greatly as we have lots more activity on the bands, particularly during the contests and the scarce DXpedition. As this is being written the sun continues to sleep and the Solar-Terrestrial data currently has an A index of 3, and the K index of 1! Sporadic higher band openings have been observed and **Larry, K5RK**, managed a **6M** qso with **ZL1RQ**. Congratulations Larry.

During the CQ WW CW contest and onwards, there was a lot of activity from the Caribbean as well as activity along the Pacific Rim. Stations have been active from Macau, **XX9**, and Singapore, **9V** among other entities. There is a planned DXpedition from February 13th, 2017 through February 26th, 2017 by a large group of DL operators manning 3 stations 24/7 on all bands from **Macau, XX9**.

Seven Polish operators are currently activating **8Q7SP** from the Maldives and will plan on leaving on December 3rd, 2016.

GØCKV is operating **3B9HA**, and has been active from Rodriguez Island. He will be there until December 12th, 2016.

There will be an activation of **ZC4SB**, The Sovereign Base Area of Cyprus from January 11th, 2017 through January 25th, 2017. **GØSGB** will be the single operator and will be mainly on 80, 40 and 20M, CW and SSB.

February 1st, 2017 through February 14th, 2017 will be the dates of operation for **TL8TT** from the Central African Republic. They will have 3 stations active 24/7 on all modes, 160M-6M. See www.i2ysb.com/idt for further information.

The 22nd of January 2017 to 2nd of February 2017 are planned for operation of TU5MH from the Republic of the Ivory Coast. There will be 5 operators with 2 stations. Sorry, no 160M operation.

Hopefully, sometime soon we might be able to get **Madison, W5MJ**, to give us a critique of his DXpedition with Zorro and others operating from **Myanmar** as **XZ1A**.

Good DXing,
Orville, K5VWW

.....

Contest Report—by Allen Brier N5XZ

KJ5Y made a run at remote operation again- CQWW with international help. Scott MM0LID made the lion share of the 1202 contacts. Used Remote Hams software and Scott controlled KJ5Y #1 & #2 from Scotland and N5XZ and I did it from Houston! Controlled the rig with N1MM+ without a hitch... flawless with Kenwood TS590s/ Expert 1.3K FA Amps. LP and wire antennas

Call: **KJ5Y**

Operator(s): **KJ5Y MM0LID N5XZ**

Station: KJ5Y

Class: **M/2 HP**

QTH: Houston, TX

Operating Time (hrs): 45

Location: USA

Summary:

[Compare Scores](#)

Ba nd	Qs Os	Zo ne s	Co un tri es
16	26	8	15
0:			
80	67	16	37
:			
40	31	30	80
:	0		
20	49	31	11
:	6		4
15	26	31	82
:	8		
10	35	9	23
:			
Tot	12	12	35
al:	02	5	1
			46
			Sc 7,
			ore 98
			4

Nothing received from WB5TUF so I had to improvise. Pat sent this report to me—N5XZ

Also, did the SS SSB with a clean sweep.

Call: **KJ5Y**

Operator(s): **KJ5Y MM0LID**

Station: KJ5Y

Class: **Multi-Op HP**

QTH: Webster, TX

Operating Time (hrs): 24

Congrats to Pat and Scott, but I'm a bit peeved, since I wasn't able to do SS this year and I always seem to fall short of a sweep (at least after my score is submitted!) - N5XZ



2017 Annual Dues by Orville Burg K5VWW

2017 Annual Dues are now being accepted.

According to the TDXS Constitution, the dues for each member are payable on or before the first regular meeting of February, which occurs on February 9th, 2017. Any member who has not paid their annual dues by Midnight, January 31st, 2017 shall be converted to inactive status.

The dues for 2017 have been set at \$25.00, **or** \$12.50 for a member living in excess of 75 miles from Grid Square EL29hs.

Payment of dues may be made by 3 methods:

- Cash presented to the Treasurer of the TDXS at a scheduled meeting.
- Check made payable to the Texas DX Society. Checks may be sent to the Texas DX Society by mail or delivered in person. The mailing address is:

Secretary of the TDXS Society
 1614 Fair Oaks Lane
 Richmond, TX 77406-1388

Via PayPal, www.PayPal.com, which will be payable to the account: treasurer@TDXS.net. If paying via PayPal, please utilize the option to "send money to friends and family."

N5XZ DXCC Challenge Status

DXCC Award	New LoTW QSLs	LoTW QSLs in Process	DXCC Credits Awarded	Total (All)	Total (Current)
Mixed *	0	0	357	357	339
CW *	0	0	342	342	334
Phone *	0	0	355	355	338
Digital *	0	0	238	238	238
160M	0	0	5	5	5
80M *	1	0	147	148	145
40M *	0	0	315	315	308
30M *	0	0	306	306	304
20M *	0	0	352	352	338
17M *	0	0	324	324	322
15M *	0	0	334	334	323
12M *	0	0	309	309	307
10M *	0	0	320	320	310
6M	0	0	40	40	40
2M	0	0	1	1	1
Challenge *	1	0	2401	---	2402

DXCC Challenge Numbers
 as of 12/6/2016

Where in the world is... Howland Island (KH1)

Howland Island (KH1)

CQ Zone 31

IOTA OC-089

Howland Island is an uninhabited coral island located just north of the equator in the central Pacific Ocean. The island lies almost halfway between Hawaii and Australia and is an unincorporated, unorganized territory of the United States. Geographically, together with Baker Island it forms part of the Phoenix Islands. For statistical purposes, Howland is grouped as one of the United States Minor Outlying Islands. EEEWWWW, how would you like to be a Minor Outlying island?

Howland Island National Wildlife Refuge consists of the entire island and the surrounding 32,074 acres of submerged land. The island is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as an insular area under the U.S. Department of the Interior and is part of the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument. Since Howland Island is uninhabited, no time zone is specified. It lies within nautical time zone as UTC-12.

On July 2, 1937, American aviation pioneer Amelia Earhart was attempting to circumnavigate the globe in a modified twin-engine Lockheed Electra when she — and her navigator, Fred Noonan — mysteriously disappeared in the middle of the Pacific Ocean near Howland Island.

They had made several changes to the plane's equipment, particularly its antenna layouts and structure, that may have critically harmed communication between the plane and its ship tender, the United States Coast Guard Cutter *Itasca*. The *Itasca* was standing by at Howland Island to signal the Electra and guide it in. Unfortunately, due to the aforementioned communications problems, the Lockheed and the cutter never made contact. While the ship could hear Earhart, it could not respond to her transmissions on the same frequency.

Howland Island was uninhabited when the United States took possession of it under the Guano Islands Act of 1856. Its guano deposits were mined by American companies from about 1857 until October 1878. George W. Benson formed the United States Guano Company to exploit the guano on Howland Island, with this claim being recognized under the U.S. Guano Islands Act. The island was a known navigation hazard for many decades and several ships were wrecked there.

Colonists, sent to the island to establish possession claims by the United States, built the Earhart Light, as a day beacon or navigational landmark. It is shaped somewhat like a short lighthouse. It was constructed of white sandstone with painted black bands and a black top meant to be visible several miles out to sea during daylight hours. The beacon was partially destroyed during early World War II by the Japanese attacks, but it was rebuilt in the early 1960s by men from the U.S. Coast Guard. By 2000, the beacon was reported to be crumbling and it had not been repainted in decades.



Where in the world is... Howland Island (KH1)

The entity of Baker and Howland Islands has been on the DXCC list since 1945, but was initially known as Baker, Howland & American Phoenix Islands. QSOs count for Baker and Howland Islands from 1945.

The DXCC entity consists of Baker Island and Howland Island, and, until 1983, also included Canton Island and Enderbury Island. Baker, Howland, Canton and Enderbury Islands are geographically part of the Phoenix Islands. From mid-1947, the KB6 (WB6 for novice stations) prefix was used for Baker and Howland Islands, and continued to be used for Baker and Howland Islands until the US callsign revision of 1978, from which date the prefix became KH1, with AH1, NH1 & WH1 also being used.

According to ClubLog.com, Howland Island is number 4 on its DXCC most wanted list.

Reporting from the Dark Side

Ron, K5HM



Texas DX Society Board members

President	Bob Hardie, W5UQ	w5uq at att.net
VP Membership	Keith Dutson, NM5G	kdutson at sbcglobal.net
VP Programs	Robie Elms, AJ4F	ruler55 at gmail.com
Secretary	Doug Seyler, WB5TKI	djseyler at comcast.net
Treasurer	Mike Bragassa, K5UO	bragassa at consolidated.net
Contest Chairman	Glenn Anderson, WB5TUF	wb5tuf at earthlink.net
Field Day Chairmen	Mike Davidson, N5MT	n5mt at aol.com
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
Bullsheets Editor	Allen Brier, N5XZ	n5xz at arrl.net

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

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

TDXS says "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" to these members with birthdays in December

Please notify the Editor if I have missed anyone

Mike Young W5RRX
Sid Leach K5XI
Buzz Loeschman NI5DX