

# The Texan

Newsletter of the Texas NTS CW Net (TEX)

**\*\* See "TSN Corner" and "RN5 Corner" on the Last Pages \*\***

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## Long Skip and Counting Traffic

We have had a couple nights of long skip on late TEX, but it has generally been OK for both late RN5 and late TEX. Interestingly, I hear from my contacts in the north (Oregon, Idaho) that they suffer from long skip much more frequently and have had to resort to using 160 meters to move traffic around PAN. The only possible explanation I can come up with is that here in the south, with the more direct sun, the ionosphere becomes more highly charged, and remains lower, thus supporting our "local" propagation.

Late TEX NCS stations are again reminded to be on the lookout for long skip conditions and always have a station as far from your location as possible call for additional QNI. Repeat that two or three times during the net if there are then check-ins close to you that you do not hear.

For moving traffic, assign a distant station to be a relay (QNB) between two stations who cannot hear each other direct but who have traffic to send. Better to take the time to send the message twice (relay) than to leave it un-handled. By the way, that counts as only one message for the net report, even though it was sent twice.

While we are on the topic of counting of messages... My policy for TEX, which is a section level net, is to NOT count any messages that are not actually sent on the air during net (or as assigned by the NCS prior to QNF). On the higher level nets (region, area) it is common to count the "thru" messages that are brought to the net to more properly reflect NTS activity at those levels. This occurs when someone who is CAN transmit on RN5, for example, brings CAN traffic that is from his own section. It also occurs when someone who is CAN receive gets messages for his section and thus holds them. I can understand why that is done, but at the section level, we don't count "thru" messages coming from RN5 or brought to take to RN5. The key is whether or not the message was actually sent from one station to another on the net. If not, it does not count in the NCS traffic report. Un-handled messages are never counted at any level, although they should be reported at the area level to the area net manager since region reps should always be present to handle them. Similarly, the NCS may report un-handled traffic at the region level, although that is not common practice, in my experience.

If anyone has other information about the "official" stance of NTS regarding counting traffic, please advise so I can get it right in a future newsletter.

### **George Hart Series**

It has been over 6 years since I ran the first of the George Hart saga here in the newsletter. New installments are slow to arrive these days. Since it has been so long, and we have had some new net members in the interim, I have decided to re-run the series, starting with the very first installment I ever received. I hope you all enjoy reading the series as much as I do, even if you previously read it. I am hoping that some day the entire collection will be published.

### **RANDOM RECOLLECTIONS OF AN OLD HAM**

*A journalistic history of the life and times in Amateur Radio of George Hart, W1NJM  
by George Hart W1NJM*

The Early Years---I never really liked the term "ham" as it applies to Amateur Radio. It has a negative connotation to me, in the same sense as "lid," meaning an inferior operator; but through the years it has been accepted. An Amateur Radio operator is a Ham, and Amateur Radio is Ham radio. So be it.

It's hard to say just when I became interested in ham radio, except that it was at a very early age. We lived in a large frame house on the campus of Lafayette College, on a high bluff overlooking the city of Easton, PA. My father was an eminent professor of chemistry at the college (see "Edward Hart: a Biography"). There were six of us; my father, my mother and four children: Edward, Jr., the oldest; Watson; George, myself; and Martin, the "baby."

Edward, Jr., will be prominent in this account, my father less so, my mother and two other siblings hardly at all. We called him "Bunch," a derivative of "honeybunch" from childhood that lingered for many years. When he was 9 years old he built his first "crystal" set and heard his first on-the-air signal; a faint whistle emanating from a local radio station, WMAP, owned by the Edison Battery Company. This was in 1919.

From then his interest in electronics burgeoned, culminating in his first ham license in 1925 with call letters 3NF. This was an "amateur class" license, which at that time gave him full amateur privileges. My two other brothers showed little or no interest in Bunch's shenanigans; but he was highest in the "pecking order" among the four of us. I was fascinated by and afraid of him, and he did little to mollify this feeling; but my showing of interest in his activities brought me closer to him--a closeness that increased and developed well into maturity.

What activities? When he was about 12 (this would be 1922) he obtained permission to move into one of the two third floor rooms of the big house. The two attic rooms were unheated, used mostly for storage (and a little hoarding during WW-I). Here Bunch established his electronics laboratory and chamber of horrors in which he terrorized the rest of us with his budding electronic genius. The attic rooms were accessible only by a very narrow staircase from the second floor corridor.

Bunch's first act, upon acquiring access to one of the third floor rooms, the one facing south overlooking the city (the other room was used for miscellaneous storage) was to secure his privacy by electrifying the narrow staircase with a spark coil that could create a spark two or three inches in length. The voltage developed was extremely high, but the current very low, so that the "shock" upon contact could be painful but not dangerous. These devices were in common use in the teens and early twenties for radio communication. Only one room in the big house was wired for electricity at that time. This was the room to the left of the third floor staircase, saved for and occupied by my uncle, Martin Marasco, my mother's brother, a chemist employed by the DuPont Film Works in Parlin, NJ, who "came home" every weekend.

Uncle Martin was a great favorite with us kids, indeed of all the family including my father because they had a love for chemistry in common. But Martin had other talents as well, one of which was a knowledge of electricity. During his many visits when we were small children he ran an overhead line from my father's laboratory, which was nearby and wired for electricity, to his room in the house, so he could enjoy the luxury of electric lights in his room, which he was accustomed to at the club where he lived in Bound Brook.

An aside; what did we use for lighting in the rest of the house? Gas. Gas lines were piped all through the house from a central facility in the city. Each room was equipped with a gas outlet, often using mantels to make the light brighter. In some, a fixture using a small pilot was activated by a pull-chain, and the light emitted was usually brighter than that emitted by most of the carbon-filament light bulbs of the day. My father saw no point in having the house wired for electricity, at considerable expense, when the gas lines were already available, but he raised no objection to Uncle Martin's activity.

(To be continued in Part 2)

### **TEX Mailbox:**

Rodney, **W5DY**, sent the following information: Guys, this is for your information. I didn't know how many of you even knew about this net.

Besides TTN and 7290, there is the DTTN (Daytime Texas Traffic Net) which meets Mon-Sat from 0830 to 0930 on 7285 and handles more traffic per yearly average than TTN.

There are many outlets on DTTN for your traffic since the net attracts many out-of-state stations.

Website: <http://southwest.hobby-site.org/webpage/dttn/>

73,  
Rodney Baker, W5DY

Tom, **K4VIZ**, sent the following link, which I found very interesting. Tom wrote: "Never forget, however, this can also be circling your back yard and monitoring what you put in your trash can or how often you water your yard."

<http://video.boeing.com/services/player/bcpid1173939806001?bckey=AQ~~%2cAAAukPAIqE~%2coAVq1qtdRjwBrIkHYj2MSytJiEK9s5fy&bctid=1331877361001>

Tom Desaulniers / K4VIZ / Conway, AR

Scott, **W7IZ**, sent the following information, which I found fascinating. Check it out. Scott wrote:

Fw: Air Traffic control for aviation fans  
(when you bring up the page, zoom out using the minimize feature)

Every day, we see planes in the sky, sometimes very high..with or without con-trails, and we ask ourselves questions.

What type of plane, airbus A320,330,350? boeing.....or other.  
Where does it come from, where is it going, what altitude, what speed, what company, etc.

You can see all the information instantly on your screen. but before clicking on the link:

<http://www.flightradar24.com/>

some tricks:

On the map you will see all the planes in the air.

To view your region or town, you can zoom in by tapping with your mouse.

Click on a airplane, and on the left screen you will get all the info:

airline, type, speed, altitude in real time, re-calculated every 10 seconds.

On some you can also click on 'view from the cockpit'.

(Note that you will need "Google Earth" installed to see the cockpit views).

As a later addition, Scott sent the following forward: For many years I have used <http://www.flightaware.com> -- on that site you can track commercial, corporate, government and private flights.

Heard from Doug, **KA5KLU**, who has been tied up with family matters, caring for his mother and wife, and unable to find the time or energy to get on the air. Doug shared the following, which brought back memories to me as well:

I was thinking the other day how much Amateur Radio has changed. I think if it wasn't for contesting that the hobby would be greatly depleted. I don't hear anyone hardly using the 2 meter repeaters around here. I look at my Packet and Pactor 1 station and remember how it used to be.

I remember when I started in NTS, CAN and RN5 were pretty active yet. I first got into Packet -- you could talk all over the place -- and then I set up Pactor 1 and had the two running with a large message mailbox in my computer. Used to handle at least 3 to 4 thousand messages

a month. On Pactor 1 I had contacts in California and Colorado and relayed traffic to Pat in Alabama for the east coast.

The Texas traffic was passed through Packet from one station to the other. That's all gone now. I can turn on my Packet and all I hear is static now. They are useless without others interested in the technology. I'm just like all the rest these days -- I have a cell phone with text. I text my daughter in Austin and we keep in contact that way.

You know all that technology was created in Amateur Radio and now today it's all commercialized into e-mail and cellular phones. E-mail and cellular phones killed all the fun.

I even remember phone patching. I didn't do that but enjoyed listening to guys set up patching for missionaries in foreign countries. Now you can call just about anywhere free from your cell phone.

I sure miss it all. Most of the hams who mentored me into the different phases of Amateur Radio are all gone now.

My best 73's and God Bless to all. Hope I can get on sometime.  
Doug//KA5KLU

Scott, **W7IZ**, forwarded the following, which is timely considering we just passed the 71st anniversary of Pearl Harbor. Very interesting anecdote.

Dec. 7, 1941 - History Lesson

From the small book entitled: "Reflections on Pearl Harbor" by Admiral Chester Nimitz.

Sunday, December 7th, 1941--Admiral Chester Nimitz was attending a concert in Washington, D.C. He was paged and told there was a phone call for him. When he answered the phone, it was President Franklin Delano Roosevelt on the phone.

He told Admiral Nimitz that he (Nimitz) would now be the Commander of the Pacific Fleet.

Admiral Nimitz flew to Hawaii to assume command of the Pacific Fleet. He landed at Pearl Harbor on Christmas Eve, 1941. There was such a spirit of despair, dejection and defeat--you would have thought the Japanese had already won the war. On Christmas Day, 1941, Adm. Nimitz was given a boat tour of the destruction wrought on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese. Big sunken battleships and navy vessels cluttered the waters everywhere you looked.

As the tour boat returned to dock, the young helmsman of the boat asked, "Well Admiral, what do you think after seeing all this destruction?"

Admiral Nimitz's reply shocked everyone within the sound of his voice. He said, "The Japanese made three of the biggest mistakes an attack force could ever make, or God was taking care of America. Which do you think it was?"

Shocked and surprised, the young helmsman asked, "What do mean by saying the Japanese made the three biggest mistakes an attack force ever made?"

Nimitz explained:

Mistake number one : the Japanese attacked on Sunday morning. Nine out of every ten crewmen of those ships were ashore on leave. If those same ships had been lured to sea and been sunk--we would have lost 38,000 men instead of 3,800.

Mistake number two : when the Japanese saw all those battleships lined in a row, they got so carried away sinking those battleships, they never once bombed our dry docks opposite those ships. If they had destroyed our dry docks, we would have had to tow every one of those ships to America to be repaired.

As it is now, the ships are in shallow water and can be raised. One tug can pull them over to the dry docks, and we can have them repaired and at sea by the time we could have towed them to America. And I already have crews ashore anxious to man those ships.

Mistake number three : every drop of fuel in the Pacific theater of war is in top of the ground storage tanks five miles away over that hill. One attack plane could have strafed those tanks and destroyed our fuel supply.

Jim, **W5FEA**, has become a regular now on TEX. In response to welcoming him to the net, Jim wrote: I have been around for a long time, being licensed originally in the mid 50's and was very active on TTN and TEX back in the 70's and some of the 80's, was the net manager for The Delta Single Sideband Traffic Net at 3.905 for quite a while, later a net control on TTN and TEX.

After TEX sessions, Rodney, who is now W5DY and Larry who is W5SBE (Austin) used to get on and "talk" on CW for quite some time. Rodney said we used to go 40 or 45 wpm...boy that is not happening now.

I went dormant as far as Hamming was concerned sometime in the 80's, my license expired and then was cancelled in 2000 when the computer I was using didn't send my renewal through to W5YI, so I had to take the tests over again this April when I got interested again, and am now back on the air.

My original call was W5HMR, I now have my Dad's original call, and thanks to K5BMR on TTN who alerted W5HX to my having attended Port Arthur College, made contact with Rodney just today (Friday). I gotta get my old call out there, there's bound to be a whole lot of people that figure I have died....not just yet.

I'm still rusty with the CW, but hopefully it won't take long to get back at it...at least I hope not.

73, Jim  
W5FEA/originally W5HMR

Pat, **KD5TXD**, sent along the following with her TSN Corner inputs: I guess I need to hit the voice nets and make a pitch for CW traffic handling.

I have to laugh when K5KV checks into TSN. He takes the Slow in Texas Slow Net seriously. It has to be painful for him to slow down that much for us, but it is a great treat to have him and any of the TEX folks stop by. If we are going to do training then we have to have some new action once in a while.

I guess I have fallen down on the job a bit as I know many of the TEX folks and when they check in I just greet them as if they have always checked in. I should be doing the standard greeting when I am NCS on TSN. Now I will treat TEX folks as if they were totally new and ask for their name and QTH and give them the welcome line that we are supposed to use for new folks. So, all y'all TEX folks, I really do know you, but we are just training, OK. Thanks to all. 73!! Pat KD5TXD

Sam, **W5CU**, forwarded the following regarding N0D - - A Special Event Station celebrating The End of the world! Sam's comment was "any excuse for a special event station operation".

That's right, the end is finally near. According to one of the three Mayan Calendars, the End of the world will occur on Dec 21, 2012. To celebrate this literally once in a lifetime event, Special Event Station N0D (Now Zero Days) will be activated on 10-80 meters for three days during and after(?) the end of the world. December 20 is a celebration of the end of the world. December 21, the day of destruction, we will be on the air as long as possible. December 22nd, that is a little iffy right now.

The N0D team will be working available satellite passes beginning December 15th, 2012, through the end of the world and possibly beyond until December 22nd. The team will be using the Official Doomsday call sign, N0D. This will provide cosmic, even intergalactic coverage for the end of the world as we know it.

Amateur radio stations around the crumbling globe are invited to contact N0D, who will be operating from secret, undisclosed locations. Our operating schedule may be a little erratic as destruction rains down upon us. Those who may be looking skyward for the end of the world, N0D will be operating on several satellite passes.

You can celebrate Doomsday by contacting N0D directly on the air. Amateurs can also become an official Doomsday station by registering on our website. You will be given a registration number and the authority to identify yourself as "Official Doomsday Station" followed by your Doomsday number. Official Doomsday stations will receive the Doomsday Station Certificate.

QSL with SASE to KK5W. If Doomsday actually does happen, we regret that a QSL will not be possible so hold on to your SASE until the 22nd at least. Check out our website for a preview of the N0D QSL card.

It is not entirely clear exactly how it will happen. Will it be a cataclysmic shift in the earth's magnetic field, Global Warming on steroids, earthquakes, volcanoes floods, global thermonuclear war, meteor collision, the 10 plagues of Egypt UFO invasion who knows ?

There are scientists, soothsayers and philosophers on both sides of the question. Either way it will be an event worth remembering. . . or maybe there will be no one left to remember it?

The South Texas Balloon Launch Team will be sending up a Doomsday Balloon BLT-32 to mark the end of the world. The trackers in the balloon will use the N0D Doomsday Call Sign.

In order to be sure the balloon is launched in time to escape destruction, the launch occurred on Saturday, Dec 15th.

More information is available on the Official N0D website, <http://www.nowzerodays.com/>  
You can also e-mail the N0D team at [N0D.Doomsday@gmail.com](mailto:N0D.Doomsday@gmail.com). Check our website for the latest updates. <http://www.nowzerodays.com/>

For information, contact:  
Ron Litt, K5HM  
[N0D.Doomsday@gmail.com](mailto:N0D.Doomsday@gmail.com)

Scott, **W7IZ**, forwarded the following regarding a Morse Code machine. While none of us on TEX need this, perhaps you know someone who might.

Easy to use, great for learning, or just messing around! 73 Mark AA6DX

<http://www.icomamerica.com/en/amateur/boyslife-morse-code-machine.aspx>

## **TEX Net Topics**

There are still 7 backup slots open (shown in **yellow**) and the **1** open liaison slot (shown in **red**) is still in need of a station for Thursday early RN5. How about at least signing on for one of the backup slots, even if you can't make it all the time that evening? Thanks to Rodney for filling in most Thursdays.

The TEX Duty Schedule and Roster are shown on the following page (for easier printing of a single page). NCS and liaison stations should have a copy of this handy both to remind you of your skeds and to easily look up names of stations you may not be familiar with. There were several changes made to the roster this month.

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### TEX CW Net Weekly Schedule

| Local         | Monday      | Tuesday     | Wednesday | Thursday    | Friday | Saturday | Sunday      |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|--------|----------|-------------|
| <b>NCS #1</b> | W5GKH       | N5RL        | KD5TXD    | KD5TXD      | N5RL   | K5KV     | W5GKH       |
| Backup        | <i>Open</i> | W5ESE       | W5DY      | W5DY        | W5DY   | W5DY     | W5CU        |
| <b>NCS #2</b> | W5GKH       | K6JT        | W5TMO     | W5TMO       | K5KV   | W5DY     | W5GKH       |
| Backup        | K6JT        | <i>Open</i> | K6JT      | K6JT        | K6JT   | K6JT     | W5CU        |
| <b>RN5 #1</b> | K5KV        | N5RL        | W5CU      | <i>Open</i> | N5RL   | K5KV     | W5CU        |
| Backup        | W5DY        | <i>Open</i> | W5DY      | <i>Open</i> | W5ESE  | W5ESE    | <i>Open</i> |
| <b>RN5 #2</b> | K5KV        | K5KV        | W5CU      | K6JT        | K6JT   | K5KV     | W5CU        |
| Backup        | W5DY        | K6JT        | K6JT      | <i>Open</i> | W5DY   | K6JT     | <i>Open</i> |

TEX/1: **3541**/7053/ 7108 at 19:00 local; TEX/2 **3541**/3643/1841 at 22:00 local

RN5/1: **3567**/7108 at 19:30; RN5/2: **3567**/7108 at 21:30 local

TSN: **3552** - 19:45 local; CAN: **3552**/7052/7108 - 20:30 local; PAN: **3552**/7052 - 22:30 local

RN5 Backup: W5CU, W5DY, W5ESE, K5GM, K6JT, K5KV, K5RG, N5RL

NCS Backup: W5CU, W5DY, W5ESE, K6JT, K5KV, K5RG, N5RL, W5TMO, KD5TXD

### TEX Roster

| Call    | Name    | Location / Notes | Call   | Name  | Location / Notes    |
|---------|---------|------------------|--------|-------|---------------------|
| N5BA    | Brian   | Houston          | WA5MS  | Marty | Highland Village    |
| W6CL    | Carol   | Tulsa OK         | N7NET  | Scott | McKinney            |
| W5CU    | Sam     | Edmond OK        | N5NVP  | Jim   | Scott LA            |
| W5DH    | Tom     | Dallas           | K5QOW  | Gary  | Reagan Wells        |
| W4DLZ   | Frank   | Florida          | WA5MUF | Bill  | Watauga             |
| * W5DY  | Rodney  | Goliad           | W5OMR  | Geoff | Houston             |
| N5EL    | Floyd   | Temple           | * K5RG | Ken   | Houston             |
| * W5ESE | Scott   | Dripping Springs | N5RL   | Randy | San Antonio         |
| W5FEA   | Jim     | Graham           | W5ROK  | Steve | Richardson (K6JT)   |
| W5GKH   | Charlie | West Columbia    | W5TMO  | Mike  | Austin              |
| K5GM    | Pete    | Austin           | W5TV   | Tom   | Nacogdoches         |
| W9GVW   | Eric    | San Antonio      | KD5TXD | Pat   | Kingsville          |
| K5JRN   | Si      | Austin           | K5RDW  | RD    | Vilonia AR          |
| * K6JT  | Steve   | Plano            | W5UFK  | Ken   | College Station     |
| KA5KLU  | Doug    | San Antonio      | KS5V   | Ed    | Bulverde            |
| * K5KV  | Benny   | Star             | WB8WKQ | Jeff  | Michigan            |
| * W6LFB | Jim     | Denton           | W5ZD   | Pat   | Kingsville (KD5TXD) |

\* Capable of 160 meter operation

**Statistics:**

Traffic and checkins were somewhat down from October. One RN5 slot was missed, but that is still 98% coverage.

Randy, N5RL, and Rodney, W5DY, tied for first place with 42 out of 60 (70%) taking first, followed by Benny, K5KV with 39 (65%). Thanks to all of you who checked in for your support. It was another good month.

We had several visitors to the net including Eric, AC5CW, from LA, Dean, W8IM, from FL, Mike, AC5P, from OK, and Vern, W0VMP, from KS.

Please join me in welcoming Jim, W5FEA, as a regular to TEX now. Jim is getting back into CW traffic handling again after many years absence. Some of you may know him by his old call, which was W5HMR. See his information in the Tex Mailbox section.

The complete list of stations and traffic / liaison totals are shown in the following table. Traffic averaged 3.9 per net session (4.3 last month). Net time averaged 12.2 minutes per session (compared to 13.0 last month). Check-ins averaged 5.6 per session (5.9 last month).

**TEX Net Statistics (October 2012)**

| Call  | Name    | QNI | Total | NCS | RN5 | TTN | DFW | TSN |
|-------|---------|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| N5BA  | Brian   | 1   | 1     |     |     |     |     |     |
|       |         | 0   |       |     |     |     |     |     |
| W5CU  | Sam     | 10  | 24    |     | 7   |     |     |     |
| *     |         | 14  |       |     | 7   |     |     |     |
| AC5CW | Eric    | 1   | 1     |     |     |     |     |     |
|       | LA      | 0   |       |     |     |     |     |     |
| W5DH  | Tom     | 20  | 20    |     |     |     | 20  |     |
|       |         | 0   |       |     |     |     |     |     |
| W5DY  | Rodney  | 22  | 42    | 2   | 5   |     |     |     |
|       |         | 20  |       | 4   | 1   |     |     |     |
| W5ESE | Scott   | 13  | 13    |     |     |     |     |     |
| *     |         | 0   |       |     |     |     |     |     |
| W5FEA | Jim     | 8   | 9     |     |     |     |     |     |
| *     |         | 1   |       |     |     |     |     |     |
| W5GKH | Charlie | 8   | 16    | 8   |     |     |     |     |
| *     |         | 8   |       | 7   |     |     |     |     |
| K5GM  | Pete    | 4   | 14    |     |     |     |     |     |
| *     |         | 10  |       |     |     |     |     |     |
| W9GVW | Eric    | 1   | 1     |     |     |     |     |     |
| *     |         | 0   |       |     |     |     |     |     |
| W8IM  | Dean    | 1   | 1     |     |     |     |     |     |
|       | FL      | 0   |       |     |     |     |     |     |
| K6JT  | Steve   | 20  | 50    | 2   | 3   |     | 9   |     |
| *     |         | 30  |       | 7   | 12  |     | 30  |     |
| K5KV  | Benny   | 19  | 39    | 3   | 6   |     |     |     |
|       |         | 20  |       | 3   | 10  |     |     |     |
| W6LFB | Jim     | 2   | 2     |     |     |     |     |     |
| *     |         | 0   |       |     |     |     |     |     |
| N5NVP | Jim     | 0   | 4     |     |     |     |     |     |

| Call   | Name  | QNI | Total | NCS      | RN5 | TTN | DFW | TSN |
|--------|-------|-----|-------|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|        |       | 4   |       |          |     |     |     |     |
| AC5P   | Mike  | 0   | 1     |          |     |     |     |     |
|        | OK    | 1   |       |          |     |     |     |     |
| K5QOW  | Gary  | 18  | 18    |          |     | 17  |     |     |
| *      |       | 0   |       |          |     |     |     |     |
| K5RG   | Ken   | 4   | 12    |          | 1   |     |     |     |
| *      |       | 8   |       |          |     |     |     |     |
| N5RL   | Randy | 22  | 42    | 6        | 7   | 4   |     |     |
| *      |       | 20  |       |          |     | 16  |     |     |
| W5TMO  | Mike  | 1   | 15    | 1        |     |     |     |     |
| *      |       | 14  |       | 9        |     |     |     |     |
| KD5TXD | Pat   | 9   | 9     | 9        |     |     |     | 9   |
| *      |       | 0   |       |          |     |     |     |     |
| W0VMP  | Vern  | 0   | 1     |          |     |     |     |     |
|        | KS    | 1   |       |          |     |     |     |     |
| KS5V   | Ed    | 2   | 3     |          |     |     |     |     |
| *      |       | 1   |       |          |     |     |     |     |
| Totals |       | 338 |       | 60       | 59  | 37  | 59  | 9   |
|        |       |     |       | 100%     | 98% | 62% | 98% | 15% |
| QTC 1  |       | 92  | 234   |          |     |     |     |     |
| QTC 2  |       | 142 |       | Sessions |     | 60  |     |     |
| Time 1 |       | 365 | 733   |          |     |     |     |     |
| Time 2 |       | 368 |       |          |     |     |     |     |

### Operating:

It seems that whenever the NCS is not right on 3541, but off a few hundred Hz possibly due to hearing QRM on net frequency, stations checking in do not properly zero beat the NCS and are off frequency, sometimes as much as a half KHz.

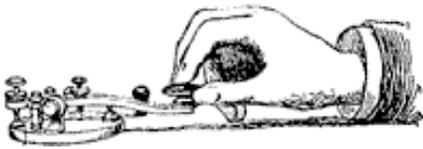
The NCS is the one who determines the net frequency. Everyone should attempt to get their transmit frequency as close to the NCS's frequency as possible.

If I am NCS, I routinely use a 300 Hz filter because the Collins Mechanical Filter installed for that bandwidth enormously cuts down on received noise. If you are not close to my frequency, within at most 150 Hz, I simply will not hear you trying to check in. Similarly, I do not hear stations checking in when someone else is NCS and they are too far off frequency.

Most rigs have a way to get close to zero beat on a received CW frequency. Do not just set your dial to 3541 and proceed if the NCS tone seems to be different than usual.

Until next year, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and hope we all have a good year in 2013.  
73, Steve K6JT

(TSN Corner starts on the next page)



## TSN Corner

Texas Slow Net (Daily) 1945 CT 3552.0 KHz +/- QRM  
[http://www.atcweb.com/tsn/Texas\\_Slow\\_Net.htm](http://www.atcweb.com/tsn/Texas_Slow_Net.htm)  
 Pat Allison KD5TXD ( [pja@atcweb.com](mailto:pja@atcweb.com) )  
 TSN Net Manager

*The telegraph key image is courtesy of FCIT*

### Greetings from the Wild Horse Desert – home of your TSN Manager

Hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and I am expecting y'all to have a wonderful Christmas. TSN keeps plugging along. We have greatly enjoyed the work that AC5BE is doing. Looks like he will take on Tuesday NCS duties, at least for a while. The goal here is to get Joe to join the TEX folks and do some real traffic handling. Thanks, Joe, for helping out on TSN. You are doing great and a true asset to our little TSN training net.

Special thanks again to KB5TCH for keeping us going. Carroll and I plan to keep TSN running for another year. We really miss Arley and Pat and wish they could get back on the air. If they can't get on the air we hope maybe they are at least listening. They are in our hearts and prayers for sure.

It has been great to have Carol, W6CL, stop by TSN on occasions. Thanks to K5KV and W5DY for stopping by. I have the feeling that it is difficult for Benny to slow down for TSN, but we really appreciate his visits. TEX visits are important for our training. Hearing a call sign that is not the usual requires us to practice introducing the net and welcoming new folks. If you know anyone interested in getting into CW traffic handling but wanting a bit of training before jumping in with the fast crowd, send them to TSN.

If you have time and are interested in helping us out, please drop me an e-mail at [pja@atcweb.com](mailto:pja@atcweb.com). We have some available evenings if anyone would like to take on NCS duties. And it would be above and beyond the call of duty if someone could help with sending the training lessons. Thanks to all!!

### November 2012 TSN Roster

| Call   | Name   | City             | ST | Call         | Name    | City          | ST |
|--------|--------|------------------|----|--------------|---------|---------------|----|
| K5AVJ  | Lynn   | Abilene          | TX | K5MDK        | Mike    | Plano         | TX |
| WA4BAM | John   | Miami            | FL | KD5MMM       | Phil    | Fentress      | TX |
| AC5BE  | Joe    | Houston          | TX | WB5NKC       | Arley   | Oklahoma City | OK |
| W6CL   | Carol  | Tulsa            | OK | WB5NKD       | Pat     | Oklahoma City | OK |
| AB0DK  | Dave   | Kirksville       | MO | N5NVP        | Jim     | Scott         | LA |
| W5DPT  | Louis  | Deer Park        | TX | K5OAI        | Sam     | San Angelo    | TX |
| W5DY   | Rodney | Goliad           | TX | N4OLN        | Gary    | Conyers       | GA |
| W5ESE  | Scott  | Dripping Springs | TX | K9PUI        | Dick    |               | IN |
| WD0ESF | Mike   | Medicine Lodge   | KS | K5QOW        | Gary    | Reagan Wells  | TX |
| AG9G   | Dwight |                  |    | N5RL         | Randy   | San Antonio   | TX |
| K5GM   | Pete   | Austin           | TX | KB5TCH       | Carroll | Douglassville | TX |
| AA5J   | Lee    | Cabot            | AR | KD5TXD, W5ZD | Pat     | Kingsville    | TX |
| N0JL   | Jim    | Chillicothe      | IA | W5TMO        | Mike    | Austin        | TX |
| K6JT   | Steve  | Plano            | TX | WB5UPS       | Ron     | Port Neches   | TX |
| AA5JW  | Carl   | Stafford         | TX | K4VIZ        | Tom     | Conway        | AR |
| K5KV   | Benny  | Star             | TX | W5VXI        | Dave    | Caddo Mills   | TX |

This is a great place to learn how to handle traffic on CW. If you are a voice net traffic handler this is a great addition to your amateur radio skill set. See you on the air!!

### **TSN Activity Report for November 2012**

Total Sessions 29, Total Check-ins 89, Total Traffic 25 by 10 different operators.

#### **November 2012 QNS**

| <b>November</b> | <b>Callsign</b> | <b>Name</b> | <b>QTH</b>     | <b>STATE</b> |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| 29              | KB5TCH          | Carroll     | Douglassville  | TX           |
| 21              | KD5TXD, W5ZD    | Pat         | Kingsville     | TX           |
| 12              | WD0ESF          | Mike        | Medicine Lodge | KS           |
| 8               | AC5BE           | Joe         | Houston        | TX           |
| 8               | KD5MMM          | Phil        | Fentress       | TX           |
| 3               | K5KV            | Benny       | Star           | TX           |
| 3               | W5VXI           | Dave        | Caddo Mills    | TX           |
| 2               | W5DY            | Rodney      | Goliad         | TX           |
| 2               | W6CL            | Carol       | Tulsa          | OK           |
| 1               | K4VIZ           | Tom         | Conway         | AR           |

**73!!**

**Pat KD5TXD**

**December 1, 2012**

(RN5 Corner Starts on the next page)

## **RN5 Corner**

Region Net 5 (Daily) 1930 CT on **3567** and 2130 CT on **3567**  
Alternate Frequency 7108 (early) or 3598 when conditions warrant  
*Serving TX, OK, LA, AR, MS, TN, AL, and FL*  
Frank Thrash W4DLZ (W4DLZ@YAHOO.COM)  
RN5 Net Manager

Hello again and welcome to edition Ten of the **RN5 Corner**.

First, I'd like to thank you all for your good participation during 2012. Although we have had many open slots, usually one of you jumps in to fill it. Your support of RN5 is much appreciated.

As you look at our Net schedule you'll see help is still much needed for NCS and CAN Reps. We are starting to get stations for DRN5 and CANW, but NCS and CAN Reps are still greatly lacking. I'll gladly assist you in anyway possible to help you get going. Just E-mail me at the address above.

If you decide to NCS or go on up to CAN or TCC you'll find it very satisfying and will be proud of what you can do. Are you looking for some New Year's Resolutions? If so, consider taking one or more of the open slots. Now there's a resolution that you just might be able to keep during the year :-)

Once again, we want to extend our Congratulations to Pete K5GM on receiving his well deserved plaque of service to NTS. Here's what Richard, NF5B, had to say about the effort to get the plaque for Pete:

Hi there,

As you know, I did the wordsmithing for a couple of paragraphs for Steve Ewald to submit to the ARRL letter, ARES E-letter, and QST regarding honoring Pete, K5GM for 29+ years of service as central area cycle 4 TCC director.

Steve should have submitted this roughly a month ago to these folks, and since then I've seen zip point squat for a mention of this in the ARRL letter or the ARES E-letter. I'm not surprised. Are you?

Those of you who get the inkprint edition of QST keep a watch for something there in the public service column or elsewhere, but I have a feeling we'll see the same response.

We're considered so irrelevant to the folks in the rarefied air of ARRL leadership that 30 years of dedication merits no mention whatsoever. Isn't this nice?

AS the pogo cartoons said "we have met the enemy, and he is us."

For those interested, Bill, N9ACQ did a rich text version of the white paper I composed. I don't know if he's connected to the radiograms reflector or not, but if you were to ask him for a copy via email he might send it to you. You could then upload it to the yahoo group's

files area. Maybe this would be a way to get some more eyes on it, not sure, I'm on enough internet mailing lists thanks to my profession and my amateur radio interests, so I took a pass on that one.

73, Richard Webb, NF5B

To Richard's email, Dean, W8IM, added:

Agree 100% with you, Public Service and particularly anything to do with NTS is not a part of the ARRL philosophy now that it seems to be run by bean counting "phoney" operators.

Thank goodness for the opportunity we had to serve when ARRL was run right by W1BDI and W1NJM, who are probably turning and twisting in their graves.

Incidentally on its last cruise, a few weeks ago, the SS American Victory KKUI station handled 19 QTC via CW thru West Coast station KSM on 16 MHz. The ham station on board W4AVM/MM handled 44 from the passengers. The beauty of it all was that it was strictly CW amateur and commercial and there was no spam in it.

73, Dean Sever W8IM  
R/O KKUI

Heard from Jim, W4AGL, who will be mostly off the air until the new year due to family and health issues. We all hope for the best for you, Jim, and look forward to hearing your great signal in 2013!

Here's wishing all of you Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas.

Frank W4DLZ  
RN5/ CW Net Mgr.

(See next page for Statistics, Duty and Net Rosters)

### RN5 Duty Roster

| Local  | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|--------|
| NCS #1 | Open   | W4DLZ   | W5CU      | WA4ZPZ   | W4QAT  | W4DLZ    | K4VIZ  |
| NCS #2 | Open   | W4DLZ   | W5CU      | WA4ZPZ   | W4QAT  | W4DLZ    | K4VIZ  |
| CAN TX | Open   | WA4ZPZ  | K4VIZ     | Open     | K4VIZ  | K5KV     | K5KV   |
| CAN RX | Open   | WA4ZPZ  | Open      | K6JT     | Open   | W4DLZ    | W5CU   |
| DRN5   | Open   | Open    | K5RG      | Open     | Open   | Open     | Open   |

### November 2012 Statistics

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| SESSIONS      | 60  |
| QTC           | 146 |
| QNI           | 373 |
| QTR           | 558 |
| CAN TX REP    | 92% |
| CAN RX REP    | 95% |
| DRN5/CANW REP | 53% |

The following updated roster shows active stations coming to RN5 and their sections.

### Region Net 5 Roster

| Call   | Name    | Section | Call   | Name   | Section |
|--------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------|
| W4AGL  | JIM     | FL      | W8IM   | DEAN   | FL      |
| K4AKC  | TOM     | AL      | WA5JAN | JIM    | AR      |
| WA5CAV | DICK    | LA      | K6JT   | STEVE  | TX      |
| W5CU   | SAM     | OK*     | KA5KLU | DOUG   | TX      |
| AC5CW  | ERIC    | LA      | K5KV   | BENNY  | TX      |
| KO9D   | BENNY   | IN      | WA5LQZ | ALAN   | LA      |
| W4DLZ  | FRANK   | FL      | K5MC   | MICKEY | LA      |
| K5DMC  | JER     | MS      | N5NVP  | JIM    | LA      |
| WD4DNC | BARRY   | FL      | K4PG   | KEVIN  | FL      |
| AD4DO  | JOHN    | FL      | KZ8Q   | BEN    | AL      |
| W5DTR  | CURT    | IL      | W4QAT  | PAT    | AL      |
| K1DW   | DALLAS  | LA      | K5RG   | KEN    | TX      |
| W5DY   | RODNEY  | TX      | N5RL   | RANDY  | TX      |
| NY4E   | BILL    | FL      | W4SQE  | ANDY   | TN      |
| W5ESE  | SCOTT   | TX      | W4SU   | JERRY  | AL      |
| KJ4FDV | TREY    | AL      | W6SX   | HANK   | CA      |
| KC4FL  | JOHN    | FL      | K15T   | WADE   | LA      |
| KA4FZI | PHYL    | FL      | K4VIZ  | TOM    | AR      |
| W5GKH  | CHARLIE | TX      | K6YR   | ROB    | CA      |
| K5GM   | PETE    | TX      | WA4ZPZ | TOM    | AL      |
| AA4HT  | BOB     | FL      |        |        |         |

\* When W5CU is not present on Late RN5, OK traffic may be sent to the TX station

73, Frank W4DLZ