

The Texan

Newsletter of the Texas NTS CW Net (TEX)

**** See "TSN Corner" on the Last Pages ****

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Pfeiffer Pfist Award

As announced by Rodney, W5DY, at the 7290 picnic, let's congratulate **Jay, N5PWG**, on receiving the prestigious 2011 Pfeiffer Pfist Award !!



As most of you know, the award is given to the TEX member who has shown outstanding support of the net along with good CW keying skills with patient and courteous operating. Jay certainly is deserving of this award. In the last several months he has taken on additional NCS and RN5 liaison duties and has volunteered to take the RN5 liaison for those nights when either the regular station is unable to make it or there is no permanent assignment.

Again, congratulations to Jay, and many thanks as well to last year's recipient, Scott, W5ESE, for taking it upon himself to both obtain the new engraved element and ship the award to Jay, including the great holding case made by Rodney a few years back.

7290 Picnic Wrap-up

The 7290 picnic wrap-up description is shown on the net's web site at:

http://www.7290trafficnet.org/mgxroot/page_10797.html

As usual, Jo Ann, KA5AZK, did a very good job of organizing the event and putting together the "official" description, which I will let you read for yourself. Pat sent in her synopsis, which I have copied below. The only TEX members in attendance were Rodney, W5DY, and Pat, KD5TXD. Rodney surprised the group by presenting them with a hand-made custom podium to use for the meetings. You can see pictures of Rodney (and Barb), the podium, and Pat (and Charles and their "pup") in the collection of pictures (note there are 3 pages of them) via the link:

http://www.7290trafficnet.org/mgxroot/page_10798.html

along with other attendees at the picnic. Received the following from Pat, KD5TXD:

The picnic was great as usual, but I thought turnout was lighter. I think they said there were 68 people attending, but not sure. I did not take a bunch of pictures. Charles insisted on bringing baby Beau, our 75 pound weimaraner pup. He was a good attendee but needed a lot of attention, too. Lots of folks remember him from last year when he was about 1/3 as big. He did not steal anyone's BBQ plate, which I am thankful for.

It was great to see KA5AZK, N5NAV and N5OUJ, and all the folks again. I really need to stop by the voice nets more and keep in touch with these folks. There were a couple folks who had promised last year to check in on TSN and get into CW traffic handling. When I encountered them I told them they have another chance this year to get involved in CW. We saw a few of the Corpus hams who had made the drive from our part of the world.

As always, Charles and I arrived late after they got the events going. We left home before 8:00a.m. and arrived around 1:00p.m. It was about 10:00pm. by the time we got home. Excellent speakers reminded the 7290 folks that they were a critical link in traffic handling. Rodney did a great job of putting traffic handling in perspective with appropriate statistics on traffic passed by NTS nets and by 7290. Pretty interesting numbers. They put me last on the list as we are always late getting there. I tried to point out that the way the nets are set up the 7290 folks have a great opportunity to work traffic on 7290 during the day, then come up to TTN, slide over to CW for TEX and round out their evening with a visit to the slow side on TSN. That used to pretty much be my day for several years.

As always, the BBQ was excellent and the ice cream messed up more than one diet for the day. The weather was perfect for a picnic. Could not have asked for a better day. There is talk of moving the picnic location for next year. The cost of this picnic spot is going up significantly. Perhaps it will be a location better set for others to get to.

Barbara and Rodney enjoyed the meal. They had their RV at the park. Charles and I need to consider doing that instead of the long, hard drive in one day.

It was good to see the 7290 folks but we were a bit light on CW representation.

Charles wanted to join in with the musician folks who were singing for the picnic. He brought his flute and they let him play a tune. Charles reads music and they play by ear so it wasn't a great match up. Thankfully baby Beau didn't try to sing along. So, my pictures were a bit on the slim side. I will just have to plan to be better next time. Thanks and 73!! Pat KD5TXD

Hamcom 2011

Lots of things happened in the last month or so. Hamcom took place in Plano last weekend. It was well attended, as usual. Jo Ann gave an excellent traffic handling presentation that drew a large group (full room) this year. I think the change to 10 AM instead of 8 had something to do with it, but there are also a lot of voice traffic handlers. I saw several calls I recognized from the VHF DFW Traffic Net, and there were other 7290 and Texas Traffic Net

members present as well. Only Ken, K5RG, and myself were there to represent the “CW folks”, and we answered some questions and/or contributed comments from time to time to make the distinction between voice and CW traffic handling a bit clearer.

Following the presentation, we held the “brunch” that I told you all about via separate email. Unfortunately, only Ken and I were there from TEX, so the two of us took Jo Ann and her husband John (as well as my father) out to iHop for the brunch. We had a very good chat and a nice time.

One somewhat ironic twist was reported by Sam, W5CU, who was unable to attend this year. Sam checked into the 7290 net at 10 AM while Jo Ann was making her presentation. He reported:

“I wanted to share something with you. At one end of HamCom Saturday morning, Jo Ann KA5AZK, Net Manager of the 7290 Traffic Net, was presenting a seminar on traffic handling, while at the very same time, at the other end of HamCom, the flagship station of amateur radio, W1AW, operating /5, was repeatedly calling CQ CQ directly on top of the net Jo Ann manages! Apparently they were having rx or antenna problems and could not hear anything, but you would think someone would know to avoid that frequency since that net has been around for 50 years or so. Wow!”

What a shame !

TEX Mailbox:

Since this is supposed to be a “short month newsletter”, and there have already been many things reported, we’ll save other topics for next month and the “Operating” section. Here are a few of the feedback items received during the last month.



Received a photo from **Charlie, W5GKH**, of TEX members from back in 1985. Those in the photo at the left included:

Kneeling L to R: KB5UL, Charles; WD5GKH, Charlie; N5BB, Bill; N5TC, Tom; KA5SPT. Seated; N5GKM

Standing L to R: NS5J; W5BGE, Dean; K5GM, Pete; AE5I, Gene; WB5VIH; KD5FR; W9OYL.

Of those, only Charlie and Pete are current “regulars” on TEX. Of course, that was 25 years ago ! Let me know if you want a higher-resolution version, which I will email to you.

Marty, WA5MS, has been checking in regularly now from the DFW area with a bit better signal. He writes: Got the old vertical set up for use on 80 just to check in to net - of course it didn't help today. 40 was no problem with the new antenna. Hopefully I can be more regular. Thanks for all the relaying.
73, Marty WA5MS

Scott, W7IZ, the Oregon STM passed along the following link. This is a truly impressive collection of equipment. Enjoy (and maybe drool just a little ;-) !

http://www.ne7x.com/New_Shack_2010.htm

Ken, K5RG, had a good trek in Nepal. He has posted some interesting photos of the rugged terrain with commentary about his trip. Ken wrote: Thought you guys might be interested as to what I was doing in May. Very good trip, no problems at all. Thanks for filling in for me.
73, Ken The pictures may be viewed at the following (somewhat long, taken from his email) link:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/krgoodwinjr/GokyoLobujeEast?authkey=Gv1sRgCKKB8brozKu-kwE&feat=email>

Si, K5JRN, reported the following on June 8. Note that this was a day after a massive coronal ejection from the sun (fortunately not in our direction). It pretty much sums up my observations here as well. Si Wrote: The 40m band was very unstable tonight here in Austin at 7 pm. Even the big signals were weak, then strong. I heard a couple of echoes on DY's signal, and he also completely faded out one time. Have never before heard him disappear like that. You were S9 down to S2 and up again. I will have only limited HF access with poor antennas for a few weeks because of work that will be done on my house. But I'll try to check in now and then.

73,
Si, K5JRN

Sam, W5CU, had a great vacation in California and wants to thank all who filled in for him. Sam wrote: We had a great time on the left coast. 3 days on the Monterrey peninsula (stayed in Carmel, did the 19 mile drive and some of Hwy 1, sea-kayaked in a nature preserve slough), 3 days visiting the XYL's high school friends in Atascadero and San Luis Obispo, 4 days in Sequoia and Kings Canyon N.P. and 4 days in Yosemite. It seems so strange to be in a place where the mountains touch the ocean. Beautiful country, I have to say, much more so than I expected. We had good wx but slightly on the cool side. Most of the big NPs closed due to excessive snow.

73, Sam

Please join me in welcoming **Randy, N5RL**, who has started checking in again from San Antonio (after over 5 years' absence) to TEX. Randy responded to my "welcome" message with the following: Thank you for your welcome Steve and I plan to stick around .. Just got my wire antennas back up for 40 and 80 meters. See you on the net !

73 de Randy N5RL

TEX Net Topics

Thanks again to Jay, N5PWG, Charlie, W5GKH, and Rodney, W5DY, for filling in Sam, while he was away on his vacation.

As you know, early TEX has moved to 7053 KHz. Except for the evening following the mass coronal ejection event, this has been working out quite well. In fact, conditions on 40 meters have stayed good even for late TEX. If problems are encountered on late TEX handling traffic, please ask the NCS to send you to 40 meters (at that time, 7108 KHz, the early RN5 frequency, works best due to QRM around 7053). Jay and I did that one night and it worked much better than the noisy conditions on 80.

We still need help with **11** open NCS/liaison slots, including **2** open *primary* NCS slots and **4** open *primary* RN5 slots (all shown in **red**). Please consider taking one of these, or even just an open backup position. Thursday and Saturday RN5 liaisons are sorely needed.

Thanks to Jay, N5PWG, Scott, W5ESE, and Rodney, W5DY, we managed to get through the month without missing any RN5 liaisons.

TEX CW Net Weekly Schedule

Local	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
NCS #1	W5GKH	N5PWG	KD5TXD	Open	N5PWG	Open	W5GKH
Backup	Open	W5ESE	W5DY	W5DY	W5DY	W5DY	W5CU
NCS #2	W5GKH	KD5TXD	KD5TXD	W5TMO	N5PWG	W5DY	W5GKH
Backup	K6JT	W5TMO	K6JT	K6JT	K6JT	Open	W5CU
RN5 #1	W5GKH	N5PWG	W5CU	Open	N5PWG	Open	W5CU
Backup	W5DY	Open	W5DY	Open	W5ESE	W5ESE	W5GKH
RN5 #2	W5GKH	N5PWG	W5CU	Open	K6JT	Open	W5CU
Backup	W5DY	Open	K6JT	W5DY	N5PWG	K6JT	W5GKH

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

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

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

RN5 Backup: W5CU, W5DY, W5ESE, W5GKH, K5GM, K6JT, N5PWG, K5RG

NCS Backup: W5CU, W5DY, W5ESE, K6JT, N5PWG, K5RG, W5TMO, KD5TXD

Statistics:

Traffic was up a little compared to last month, but check-ins were down. Rodney, W5DY, took first honors with 36 (58%). Jay, N5PWG, with 26 (42%) took second, edging out Floyd, N5EL, in 3rd with 25 (40%). Thanks to all who checked in for your support.

We had Benny, K5KV, again with us for several sessions from his Star, TX, QTH. We also had visitors Brad, KV5V, from Salado, and N5ZAS, Chuck, from Thrall.

The complete list of stations and traffic / liaison totals are shown in the following table. Traffic averaged 2.5 per net session (2.1 last month). Net time averaged 12.7 minutes per session (compared to 12 last month). Check-ins averaged 4.4 per session (4.7 last month).

TEX Net Statistics (May 2011)

Call		QNI	Total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW	TSN
N5BA	Brian	1	1					
		0						
W5CU	Sam	9	23		7			
*		14			8			
W5DY	Rodney	17	36	7	4	1		
		19		4	6			
N5EL	Floyd	25	25					
*		0						
W5ESE	Scott	20	20		4			3
*		0						
W5GKH	Charlie	10	20	10	6			
*		10		10	6			
K5GM	Pete	2	3					
*		1						
K5JRN	Si	2	2					
*		0						
K6JT	Steve	19	48	3	1		19	
*		29		1	8		29	
K5KV	Benny	2	6					
		4						
WA5MS	Marty	2	2					
*		0						
N5NVP	Jim	1	13					
		12						
N5PWG	Jay	13	26	7	9			
*		13		4	3			
K5QOW	Gary	10	10			9		
*		0						
W5TMO	Mike	0	19					
*		19		4				
KD5TXD	Pat	6	15	4				4
*		9		8				6
KV5V	Brad	1	1					
	Salado TX	0						
N5ZAS	Chuck	0	1					
	Thrall TX	1						
Totals		271		62	62	10	48	13
				100%	100%	16%	77%	21%
QTC 1		49	152					
QTC 2		103		Sessions:		62		
Time 1		389	789					
Time 2		400						

The roster has been updated to add Randy, N5RL.

TEX Roster

Call	Name	Location / Notes	Call	Name	Location / Notes
N5BA	Brian	Houston	WB5NKC	Arley	Oklahoma City OK
W5CU	Sam	Edmond OK	N5NVP	Jim	Scott LA
* W5DY	Rodney	Goliad	* N5PWG	Jay	Pasadena
N5EL	Floyd	Temple	K5QOW	Gary	Reagan Wells
* W5ESE	Scott	Dripping Springs	WA5MUF	Bill	Watauga
W5GKH	Charlie	West Columbia	* K5RG	Ken	Houston
K5GM	Pete	Austin	N5RL	Randy	San Antonio
W9GVW	Eric	San Antonio	W5ROK	Steve	Richardson (K6JT)
AA5J	Lee	Arkansas	N0SSS	Adam	Oklahoma
KJ9J	Newt	Pharr TX (winter)	W5TMO	Mike	Austin
K5JRN	Si	Austin	W5TV	Tom	Nacogdoches
* K6JT	Steve	Plano	KD5TXD	Pat	Kingsville
KA5KLU	Doug	San Antonio	K5RDW	RD	Vilonia AR
* K5KV	Benny	Star	W5UFK	Ken	College Station
* W6LFB	Jim	Denton	WB8WKQ	Jeff	Michigan
WA5MS	Marty	Highland Village	* NK5Z	Tom	Conroe
N7NET	Scott	McKinney	W5ZD	Pat	Kingsville (KD5TXD)

* Capable of 160 meter operation

Operating:

NCS stations on early TEX are reminded to hold the RN5 liaison station until all other stations have been excused, in case there are late check-ins with traffic. Also note that the RN5 station on late TEX is NOT the one to whom new RN5 messages are to be routed. Ask for a volunteer to take any late session RN5 messages (or give them to the station who will cover early RN5 the next day – see the schedule). The late TEX RN5 liaison station may be excused as soon as all incoming traffic has been cleared. No need to hold him until the end.

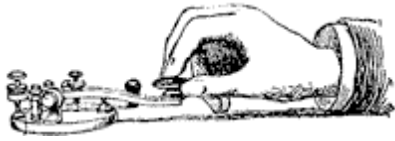
Field Day

Field Day is fast approaching (June 25). I hope to be helping the Rockwell Collins club, W5ROK, and will be available on both early and late TEX. For Field Day, please use 7108 KHz for early TEX (and be sure to close or move off before 7:28 so that RN5 can have the frequency). That should avoid the large amount of QRM expected on 7053. Late TEX should similarly use 3643 KHz. There may be some SSB QRM near there, but Field Day operation usually stays largely within the general class sub-bands.

Until next month,

73, Steve

(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
 Pat Allison KD5TXD (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

Traffic and checkins are a bit down this month. Weather has been difficult for Arley and Pat up in OK. Things are really dry down here in the Wild Horse Desert and conditions haven't been the best in my area of Texas for radio lately. Special thanks to the TEX folks who have stopped by during the month to pass some real traffic to WB5NKD on our TSN net. It is a welcome addition to our training lessons and Pat and Arley are ALWAYS there. Visit TSN any time. We run a bit slow, but everyone is welcome to join us.

May 2011 TSN Roster

Call	Name	City	ST	Call	Name	City	ST
K5AVJ	Lynn	Abilene	TX	N7NET	Scott	Allen	TX
ND0CW	David	Newburg	ND	N5NK	Rondel	Zephyr	TX
K0CMH	Craig	St Louis	MO	WB5NKC	Arley	Oklahoma City	OK
W5DY	Rodney	Goliad	TX	WB5NKD	Pat	Oklahoma City	OK
W5ESE	Scott	Dripping Springs	TX	N5NVP	Jim	Scott	LA
WD0ESF	Mike	Medicine Lodge	KS	AA5NZ	Web	Goldthwait	TX
K5FAL	Curt	Edmond	OK	N5PWG	Jay	Pasadena	TX
K5GM	Pete	Austin	TX	KE5PYF	David	Fort Worth	TX
KD5GM	Louis	Deer Park	TX	N0SSS	Adam	Oklaunion	TX
W9GVW	Eric	San Antonio	TX	KB5TCH	Carroll	Douglassville	TX
AK4GY	Russ	Lewisberg	TN	W5TMO	Mike	Austin	TX
WR9H	Herbert	Rockford	IL	KD5TXD, W5ZD	Pat	Kingsville	TX
KE5HCM	Patti	Kerville	TX	WB5UPS	Ron	Port Neches	TX
AA5J	Lee	Cabot	AR	N5UZ	Rick	Cedar Park	TX
K6JT, W0CXX	Steve	Plano	TX	KD5VGJ	Jay	Flower Mound	TX
N0JL	Jim	Chilliecothe	IA	K4VIZ	Tom	Conway	AR
AA5JW	Carl	Stafford	TX	W4VLL	Victor	Pembroke	VA
K9JWV	Jim	St. George	UT	W5VXI	Dave	Caddo Mills	TX
KT4KL	Alton	Bandera	TX	WB8W	Bob	Cincinnati	OH
K5KV	Benny	Star	TX	WB5WKQ	Jeff	Dryden	MI
KB5KWO	Steve	Norman	OK	N5XGG	Joe	Colmesneil	TX
W8LKI	Wolfe	Defiance	OH	NK5Z	Tom	Conroe	TX
KC0M	Larry	Branson	MO				
KD5MMM	Phil	Fentress	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 May, 2011

Total Sessions 31, Total Check-ins 124, Total Traffic 30 by 14 different operators.

May 2011 QNS

May	Callsign	Name	QTH
31	WB5NKC	Arley	OK, Oklahoma City
31	WB5NKD	Pat	OK, Oklahoma City
19	AA5JW	Carl	TX, Stafford
10	KB5TCH	Carroll	TX, Douglassville
10	KD5TXD, W5ZD	Pat	TX, Kingsville
5	W5ESE	Scott	TX, Dripping Springs
4	K5FAL	Curt	OK, Enid
3	KD5MMM	Phil	TX, Fentress
3	WB5UPS	Ron	TX, Port Neches
2	W5DY	Rodney	TX, Goliad
1	K4VIZ	Tom	AR, Conway
1	K5AVJ	Lynn	TX, Abilene
1	KE5PYF	David	TX, Fort Worth
1	W5VXI	Dave	Caddo Mills, TX

73!!

**Pat KD5TXD
June 16, 2011**