

The Texan

Newsletter of the Texas NTS CW Net (TEX)

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

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HAMCOM Convention June 7 and 8

This year's HAMCOM convention took place in Plano, TX, on June 7 and 8. Jo Ann, KA5AZK, presented the traffic handling session on Saturday morning, from 10 AM until Noon (2 full hours). Steve, K6JT, assisted Jo Ann and then gave a presentation about NTS and a very quick look at how CW traffic nets operate. Even with 2 hours, there was not enough time, and the CW net segment had to be compressed to 5 minutes. Maybe next year we ask for 2.5 hours? The session was well-attended in spite of the North TX forum starting at 11 AM. Some folks left after the first hour but others came in to take their place. It was good to meet Tom, W5DH, at HAMCOM and also to see Jim, W5FEA, once again.

Field Day is June 22 and 23

Some of you will likely be participating in Field Day this year. TEX will run regular sessions but using the "backup" frequencies of 7108 for early TEX and 3595 for late TEX. The W5ROK club station, of which I am trustee, plans to participate but in a limited way this year. Don't forget that your club can earn lots of extra points by originating a message to your SM or SEC as well as up to 10 standard radiograms addressed to any other location. Points can also be earned by relaying traffic on RN5, so if your club is amenable, by all means volunteer for RN5 liaison. We have no regular assigned liaison stations on Saturday evening, nor a regular early TEX NCS.

NTS Survey

This was received from Steve Ewald, WV1X, at the ARRL. The ARRL Emergency Communications Advisory Committee NTS Survey is an update from one that was posted mid-May and then pulled down for some revisions.

We hope that many manual and digital NTS traffic handlers will take this survey to provide us with a statistically significant set of responses.

The survey link is posted on the NTS portion of the ARRL website. You may find the link to the survey by clicking or pasting this link in your browser: www.arrl.org/nts

The survey will end midnight, Monday, June 24. We expect to send reminder emails on Friday, June 14 and Friday, June 21. Please take a few minutes to complete and submit the survey.

73, Jim Cross WI3N
SM MDC
Chairman ARRL ECAC

Note: I already submitted my responses, including many comments. All of the NTS traffic handlers reading this newsletter are urged to respond.

George Hart Series

Here is the 6th installment of the George Hart Series, for your reading pleasure. Bunch and "Geo" climb from pure frustration to the heights of pure resonance in their explorations.

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*

Part 6: The Great Discovery

All the next day, Bunch and I, with George Suydam kibitzing part of the time, sorted through the treasures, Bunch started construction of a new transmitter that, he predicted, would make 3NF an outstanding signal on the air, with a pure DC note instead of our weak, raspy AC. Again it was "breadboard" type of construction with all connections and wiring in plain sight with no effort to conceal or make it look neat. Metal rack and panel, and chassis construction was only for commercial and sophisticated amateur installations.

We were off the air for a few days during this period, for the 210 transmitter had to be cannibalized so some of its parts could be used in the new setup. No changes, however, were made in the receiver.

At last everything was in readiness for testing, with the new DC power supply mounted on a separate breadboard. Safety was not a consideration, we considered ourselves indestructible, everything was out in the open. When Bunch threw the plate voltage knife switch, the 281 rectifier tubes protested but did not arc over, despite the 1000 volts (less voltage drop through the overloaded tubes) they were being subjected to. When he pressed the key the big transformer groaned and the 852 tube tantalum plate turned red. The plate current meter showed 100 ma. and the antenna RF meter moved only slightly higher than it had with the 210. Undaunted, Bunch called a CQ, but received no answer. We didn't use spot frequencies in those days, because unless you had crystal control (which only the more elite stations boasted) and a highly selective receiver you were never sure just where your signal was in the band (or out of it). After a CQ (CQ CQ CQ DE 3NF 3NF 3NF, repeated three times then standing by with an AR K) you tuned over the entire band for calls. Bunch was distressed at not hearing any one calling us after several attempts. So he called other stations' CQ call: (8BOE, 8BOE, 8BOE DE 3NF 3NF 3NF repeated three times then AR K),

finally received an answer and a signal report of R4 (fair) RAC (rectified AC). With such a big increase in input power and a filtered supply, the result was very disappointing. He turned the key over to me, but my results were no better.

"Hell!", he said. "We're not getting out any better than before. And why RAC? We should have a pure DC note." He threw up his hands in disgust and walked away. I continued operating; made two or three more contacts, finally decided we weren't getting out as good as before. And the signal reports continued to be RAC. I persevered for several days with no better result, until Ed decided to increase the voltage to 1500. Surprisingly, the 281 rectifiers did not break down but although the plate current increased, the antenna RF meter showed no increase in deflection, contacts remained rare and, when made, signal reports were low. In desperation, Bunch removed all power supply components except the big transformer. This gave a slightly higher deflection on the RF meter, 150 ma. plate current, a return to a.c. signal reports, and some of the electric light fixtures in the house glowed dully without the switch being on. Bunch even applied the full 3000 volts across the transformer output, still without any appreciable improvement in signal reports although the 852 plate turned almost white.

What was wrong? Of course I had no explanation and Bunch, completely frustrated, concentrated on his social activities to my complete exclusion. No word from Uncle Sam, although the BCI must have continued, perhaps grew worse. He probably gave up. Bunch and I completely forgot that the purpose of the major rebuilding program had been to placate Uncle Sam. All we cared about was "getting out," putting a stronger and higher quality signal on the air. We couldn't understand why increasing the input power didn't have this effect. Eventually, at my continued pleading; Bunch took time off from his social schedule and returned our (his) station to its former status. The 852, the big transformer and the other power supply components went into storage. The restoration of the 210 into its former configuration seemed to make the performance even worse than it had been before. Bunch didn't seem to care. I cared a lot, but my technical ability was very limited. I was almost completely dependent on my big brother.

It was a crucial time in the history of 3NF and my budding enthusiasm for amateur radio. Bunch seemed to have lost interest, and spent a lot of time running around in his flivver with George Suydam and their close circle of girls. Sometimes Bunch brought a girl to his radio room, and on such occasions I was excluded. I waited, trying to be patient, still operating "the rig" but having little success, and eventually I found him sitting on his bed thoughtfully contemplating the transmitter.

"Wonder what's wrong with it?" he mused. I made a number of eager suggestions, but he completely ignored them. What I wanted most of all was for him to apply his great knowledge of electronics to the problem, fully confident that he could solve it. He rummaged around until he found the QST diagram containing the circuit he had used when building the transmitter and perused it studiously.

"Wonder what that is?" he asked himself, and when I inquired "What?" he pointed to a series of loops in the plate voltage line marked, simply, RFC. He reread the text of the article but found no reference to it, but under the diagram it explained that RFC was a coil of wire. He remembered having seen it when building the transmitter but having ignored it, "It can't be anything important," he continued, still talking to himself more than to me, "but what the hell.

I've tried everything else. I'll make one." Whereupon he cut off a piece of broomstick, wound some wire around it, fastened it to the stick with tacks and connected it in series with the high voltage lead from the transformer. He then "fired up" the transmitter and pressed the key.

The plate of the 210 tube didn't turn red as it usually did, and the transformer did not groan, as was also customary, only made a small humming sound. The RF meter in series with the antenna lead, which normally barely moved, deflected to three quarters of full scale.

"Holy smokes!" I exclaimed.

"Whatsa matter, George?" he said, grinning at me.

"The meter's broke!"

"I don't think so." He turned on the receiver, tuned around until he heard a CQ and called. He received a prompt answer and a report of R-8, one of the highest we had ever received. In the next ten minutes he made three more contacts on three calls and received R-8 from two of them. R-9 from the other.

"I think we solved the problem," he said, and continued operating. I was itching to get at the key, but Bunch was not about to relinquish it. When I pleaded with him to let me take a crack at it, he snarled at me and sent me downstairs to bed. Some time later he awoke me from a sound sleep. "Wake up, George!" he said, shaking me. "I worked three sixes. Conditions are great, but I'm going to bed. If you want to operate, get up."

"What time is it!"

"Four thirty. I can't stay awake any more, but if you want to operate, come on up. Just be quiet."

It was a Monday morning in midwinter, 1928. I rolled out of bed, put on a warm bathrobe and went upstairs. The kerosene heater was going, but it was still a little chilly in the big room. I sat down and started operating, shivering, but soon got so interested in the activity on the band (80 meters) that I forgot my discomfort. There weren't many signals, but no other noises either, such as we usually had to contend with during the day.

I operated until daylight, managed to work a 7 in Montana and another one in Idaho, called several 6's but got no answers. At 7 o'clock I had to quit to get ready for school. During the day, in school, I bragged to several companions that I had talked by radio to stations in Montana and Idaho, but no one believed me. I believe they thought I was a little cracked, and some of them moved away from me. All day I walked on clouds. 3NF had an outstanding signal, at last! I could hardly wait to get home and do some more operating.

Coming next in Part 7. Traffic Handling at 3NF in 1928.

TEX Mailbox:

Kate, K6HTN, forwarded the following information about the Red Cross Safe and Well Website. Kate wrote: I got this very interesting email from our Vice Director (SW Division), indicating how NTS could make use of the Red Cross' Safe & Well web system for W traffic in

a regional disaster situation. According to this, anyone who has an affected party's home address or phone number can make a Safe & Well entry on that party's behalf.

It seems to me that Target Stations (radio email) should especially take note, but NTSD & other long-haul operators may also be interested.

This might be right up there on the list of "delivery" options, especially if the affected person did not have their out-of-town contact information available.

For W radiograms with delivery contact information, early long-haul operators in the relay chain could also consider bypassing the rest of the NTS manual system in favor of Skype or "free long distance minutes" delivery methods.

Has there been discussion or documentation on exactly what NTS ops outside a disaster zone should "really" do about routing W messages?

Thanks, all.

73 Kate K6HTN, LAX STM

Information follows:

The subject of handling welfare messages in a disaster usually generates a discussion as to how such messages should be routed. The most commonly mentioned means in years past were 1) reaching a Ham in the destination area directly, 2) reaching a Ham outside the affected area who could call the relative or friend, and 3) and introducing the message into the National Traffic System (NTS).

Direct contact with a Ham in the destination city is subject to elements of chance and propagation and requires a reasonably capable HF station. With large HF stations becoming more scarce and with over half of U.S. licensees holding only Technician-class privileges, this method is not too likely to be utilized, at least for domestic traffic.

Having a Ham outside the affected area use the telephone or other regular infrastructure to contact the relative or friend is a good choice, although the affected individual might not have destination contact information available due to displacement or urgency of evacuation.

Using NTS remains a viable means of getting a welfare message out, assuming that the affected area has a staffed and functioning NTS program, as we are fortunate to have here in the Los Angeles Section. NTS operators are better trained than the average Ham and can route the message all the way to its destination city if the outlet nets are there or to any NTS operator outside the affected area. This, too, depends on the affected person having destination contact information available.

There is another option for outbound welfare messages: accessing the American Red Cross' (ARC) "Safe and Well" Web site. A displaced individual does not need any phone numbers or addresses other than his or her own in order to take advantage of this site, and Amateur Radio can provide the link to make up for any missing Internet access. My knowledge of this site is limited to what I could glean from visiting it, so if any of you have a more in-depth understanding of it, please chime in. Here's what I have found so far:

The ARC's Safe and Well site is located here: <https://safeandwell.communityos.org/zf/safesearch/search>. Postings are from the affected area out; one cannot post or register a "where-is" inquiry. The location of the posting party is not disclosed in the standard posting due to privacy rules, although the poster may opt to include location specifics in the free-text portion of the listing. Family and friends must enter the pre-disaster mailing address or telephone number of the person they are concerned about in order to see the posting. This, of course, is to prevent unrelated outsiders from "surfing" the listings out of curiosity or for nefarious purposes.

There appears to be no restriction on a third party, such as an Amateur Radio operator, posting to the Safe and Well site on behalf of someone in the disaster-affected area. To do so, he or she must have the pre-disaster mailing address and telephone number of the person for whom the posting is being done. Without that information, the posting will not be accepted (since that information is key to the status-search process). In addition, the party for whom the posting is being made must provide current city and state (for internal ARC use in family reunification efforts, etc.). Finally, that party selects one or more standard short messages and can opt to add information in the "custom message" box. Here are the standard messages:

- I am safe and well
- Family and I are safe and well
- Currently at shelter
- Currently at home
- Currently at friend's / family's / neighbor's house
- Currently at hotel
- Will make phone calls when able
- Will e-mail when able
- Will mail letter / postcard when able
- I am safe and in the process of evacuating
- I have evacuated and am safe
- I am evacuating to a shelter
- I am evacuating to the house of a family member / friend
- I am currently / remaining at home

Understandably, some disaster victims may not want their home address going out over the air, but no one can initiate a posting on their behalf without it. The use of a mode other than voice (e.g., CW or digital) may alleviate their concerns, and those familiar with using FLDIGI, packet or WINLINK could be of great help in this regard.

I suggest that we become familiar with the Safe and Well registration page and know how to guide a disaster victim through the process of providing information for a posting. Even if we can reach concerned relatives through Amateur Radio means alone, getting a Ham outside the affected area to post to the site on behalf of a victim will provide another avenue for those concerned about someone's welfare to know that person is OK.

73, Marty N6VI

- . . . -

Also received a message from **Jutti, K6FRG**, who is part of the CA group sending out welcome messages to new hams. Some good information, and a plea for those of you who may also be Volunteer Examiners. Jutti wrote: I also send messages the new hams here in CA. What I've noticed is that the messages from the people you mentioned (DL4FN, WA4STO) seem pretty hit or miss. I hear them coming in on our local phone nets and have noticed that many of the people I send messages to here in CA do not get a message from them.

I am pretty picky about the phone numbers. I tried one of the paid services on a trial offer and only used it for messages I put out on the local nets. The results were even worse than the online white pages! If I have any doubts about a phone number, I don't send the message. It's sad that it is getting harder and harder to find telephone numbers.

I always mail Pat's message if I can't reach the recipient by phone. I figure if someone cared enough to renew their license, they just might be interested in the NTS. I also send them info about NTS here in Southern CA along with a list of the local nets.

One plea I'd like to make is for VECs to please double check they have entered the data correctly into the FCC database. Tuesday I ended calling the parents of a new licensee in TX because the house number was wrong with the ULS. I explained how they could get it corrected. The YL also got a radiogram from me via the standard route.

I have two suggestions for VECs

1. BEFORE you submit the data be sure you have entered it correctly! Check it!
2. When people fill out the form at the exam session PLEASE confirm you can read their writing!

With every batch of messages I process I end up sending at least one with an OP NOTE with an address or name correction. Well, I'll get off my soap box.

73 Jutti

- . . . -

Received the following from **Steve, WV1X**, at ARRL regarding NTS supplies that some of you may be interested in ordering. Steve wrote:

Hello, everyone.

The ARRL National Traffic System supply items are now ready and available via the ARRL Store at ARRL Headquarters.

You'll find the items listed as a group in the "What's New" section on the homepage of the ARRL Store, <http://www.arrl.org/shop/National-Traffic-System-NTS-Supplies>, as well as listed individually in the "Pins, Patches, Supplies" category.

Here are the specific product order numbers for each item and the cost of each item.

NTS Pin -- ARRL Order No. 2606, \$5

NTS Patch -- ARRL Order No. 3170, \$3

NTS Sticker -- ARRL Order No. 3850, \$2

NTS Mug -- ARRL Order No. 4445, \$10

73, Steve Ewald, WV1X
Supervisor, Field Organization Team

- . . . -

Bob, K6YBV, sent along a link to a nice writeup about his daughter Molly in New Zealand. Bob wrote:

Been trying to check into the TEX net at 10:00 PM your time but no one can hear me. So I guess I'm out until the Fall. Here is a link to the newspaper article about Molly from New Zealand: http://www.nzherald.co.nz/entertainment/news/article.cfm?c_id=1501119&objectid=10890609&ref=rss

My daughter will also be appearing at the Texas State Fair in October for those of you living near Dallas. Here is the link to more info: <http://dallas.culturemap.com/news/entertainment/06-03-13-blondie-molly-ringwald-asleep-at-the-wheel-concerts-state-fair-of-texas/>

73, Bob K6YBV

Thanks, Bob. Will make it a point to try to go see her on October 4. NCS Stations on Late TEX: Listen closely for a weak QNI from Bob a few minutes into the net.

- . . . -

Rodney, W5DY, was active with the Texas Water Safari held this past week. Here's a short report and picture of a really loooong canoe in the event.



2013 Texas Water Safari. 9am June 8 thru 1pm June 12.

There were 115 canoes entered this year and 81 who finished. The race goes from San Marcos to Seadrift, 265 miles on the rivers (San Marcos & Guadalupe). There are 12 checkpoints from Staples to Seadrift, each manned by ham radio operators. The checkpoints down to Palmetto are manned by hams from the San Antonio area. The checkpoints from Gonzales to Seadrift are manned by hams from the Victoria area. This year there were 36 hams who worked the 12 checkpoints with over 1000 man hours spent.

Otto, WB2RJB and I manned checkpoint 8 (Cuero Hwy 236) from 8am Sunday, June 9 until 10pm Monday, June 10. This checkpoint is 160 miles from the start. Attached is a picture of the first canoe at our location, which went on to be the first at Seadrift (Finish).

I have been working this event since 1982 and had a first this year. 94 canoes came in at our checkpoint and 94 left. No drop-outs, no incidents, nothing lost or left, no accidents, no freak-outs by hallucinating canoers, good race officials to work with. Already looking forward to next year.

If you want to help with the toughest public service event you will ever work, let me know and I will put you down for next year. It is a great experience.

73, Rodney W5DY

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TEX Net Topics

There are still 5 backup slots open (shown in **yellow**) and **4** open liaison slots (shown in **red**) in need of a station for Thursday early RN5 and now Saturday early NCS and both RN5 sessions. So far Rodney, Scott, and I have been filling them, but we cannot always be available. Field day may also present a unique problem.

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.

If you are scheduled for an NCS or Liaison slot, and you cannot make it, if at all possible, please notify both K6JT and W5DY (see email addresses and cell phone number at top of page 1) as soon as you can before the net meeting so that the backups can be alerted.

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TEX CW Net Weekly Schedule

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

TEX/1: **7053**/ 7108 / 3541 at 19:00 CT; TEX/2 **3541**/3595/1841 at 22:00 CT

RN5/1: **7108**/3567 at 19:30; RN5/2: **7108**/3567/3598 at 21:30 CT

TSN: **3570** - 19:45 CT; CAN: **7052**/7108/3552/3595 - 20:30 CT; PAN: **7052**/3552 - 22:30 CT

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	WA5MUF	Bill	Watauga
W6CL	Carol	Tulsa OK	N7NET	Scott	McKinney
W5CU	Sam	Edmond OK	* KB5NJD	John	Duncanville
W5DH	Tom	Dallas	N5NVP	Jim	Scott LA
W4DLZ	Frank	Florida	W5OMR	Geoff	Houston
* W5DY	Rodney	Goliad	K1PKZ	Paul	Tom Bean
* W5ESE	Scott	Dripping Springs	K5QOW	Gary	Reagan Wells
W5FEA	Jim	Graham	* K5RG	Ken	Houston
W5GKH	Charlie	West Columbia	N5RL	Randy	San Antonio
K5GM	Pete	Austin	W5ROK	Steve	Richardson (K6JT)
W9GVW	Eric	San Antonio	W5TMO	Mike	Austin
K5JRN	Si	Austin	KD5TXD	Pat	Kingsville
* K6JT	Steve	Plano	W5UFK	Ken	College Station
KA5KLU	Doug	San Antonio	WB8WKQ	Jeff	Michigan
* K5KV	Benny	Star	K6YBV	Bob	Placerville CA
* W6LFB	Jim	Denton	W5YE	Brian	Harlingen
WA5MS	Marty	Highland Village	W5ZD	Pat	Kingsville (KD5TXD)

* Capable of 160 meter operation

Statistics:

Traffic was up slightly, but checkins were down compared to last month. We also missed one net session and 3 RN5 slots were missed (including the missed net session). Hopefully we can do a bit better this month.

Randy, N5RL, with 52 out of 61 (85%) again captured first, Rodney, W5DY, with 38 (62%) was second and Sam, W5CU, with 34 (56%) captured third. Thanks to all of you who checked in for your support.

We had several visitors to the net including Jim, W4AGL, and Frank, W4DLZ, from Florida, Henry, W5HNS from Lubbock, Byron, W8SYD, from San Antonio, Brian, W5YE from Harlingen, and Bob, K6YBV, from California. Welcome to all and thanks!

The complete list of stations and traffic / liaison totals are shown in the following table. Traffic averaged 3.2 per net session (3.0 last month). Net time averaged 12.7 minutes per session (compared to 12.0 last month). Check-ins averaged 5.6 per session (6.1 last month).

TEX Net Statistics (April 2013)

Call	Name	QNI	Total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW
W4AGL	Jim	0	2				
	FL	2					
W4DLZ	Frank	0	1				
	FL	1					
W5CU	Sam	15	34		12		
*		19			9		
W5DH	Tom	13	13				13
		0					
W5DY	Rodney	18	38		2		
		20		4	2		
W5ESE	Scott	22	22		4		
*		0					
W5FEA	Jim	1	5				
*		4					
W5GKH	Charlie	8	16	7			
*		8		8			
K5GM	Pete	8	12				
*		4					
W9GVW	Eric	2	2				
*		0					
W5HNS	Henry	1	1				
	Lubbock	0					
K6JT	Steve	18	49	5	2		13
*		31		6	12		31
K5KV	Benny	8	25		1		
		17		3	6		
KB5NJD	John	13	15				
		2					
N5NVP	Jim	0	2				
		2					
K5QOW	Gary	12	12			12	
*		0					

Call	Name	QNI	Total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW
K5RG	Ken	1	10		1		
*		9			2		
N5RL	Randy	25	52	8	6	10	
*		27				27	
W8SYD	Byron	1	1				
	San Antonio	0					
W5TMO	Mike	0	13				
*		13		10			
KD5TXD	Pat	10	10	10			
*		0					
W5YE	Brian	1	1				
	Harlingen	0					
K6YBV	Bob	0	3				
	CA	3					
Totals		339		61	59	49	57
				98%	95%	79%	92%
QTC 1		59	196				
QTC 2		137			Sessions:	61	
Time 1		363	774				
Time 2		411					

Operating:

Note that late RN5 has moved to 40 meters (7108) with 3567 as a backup in the event there is long skip between 2 stations who need to pass traffic.

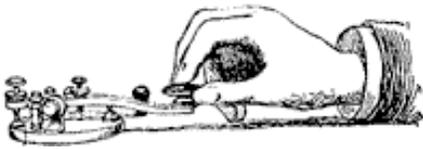
The Central Area NTS White Paper along with the 2 presentations made at HAMCOM now have links on the main TEX web page. There is also a link to the June QNI Newsletter there. Good reading.

There has been some discussion about holding late TEX on 40 meters. Late RN5 seems to be working well there, so TEX may as well. Certainly less noise on 40 when T-storms are nearby. But we had one evening where there was long skip on 40 for *early* TEX, so I have not made the decision to move the late session yet. Weekends might be a problem due to more QRM on 40, too.

Let me know your thoughts on this if you have the time. Already heard from Benny, K5KV, who is in favor of it.

Until next month, 73, Steve K6JT

(TSN Corner starts on the next page)



TSN Corner

Texas Slow Net (Daily) 1945 CT 3570.0 KHz +/- QRM

Looking for new TSN Net Manager

The telegraph key image is courtesy of FCIT

Greetings from the Wild Horse Desert - Home of KD5TXD

Checkins were still struggling this month. Once again, thanks to KB5TCH we were able to make all of the nets. We had three evenings where we had zero checkins and did not send a training lesson. Thank you to everyone who is checking in and supporting TSN.

TSN still is looking for a Net Manager. If anyone would like to help out as a net control one night a week we would greatly appreciate the help. Please tell friends who are interested in traffic handling on CW to check out TSN.

Stop by any evening on 3570 kHz at 7:45p.m. CDT.

If you have time and are interested in helping us out, please drop me an e-mail at 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!!

May 2013 TSN Roster

Call	Name	City	ST	Call	Name	City	ST
WA4BAM	John	Miami	FL	K5MDK	Mike	Plano	TX
AC5BE	Joe	Houston	TX	KD5MMM	Phil	Fentress	TX
KX5C	Ron	Silsbee	TX	WB5NKC	Arley	Oklahoma City	OK
W6CL	Carol	Tulsa	OK	N5NVP	Jim	Scott	LA
AB0DK	Dave	Kirksville	MO	K5OAI	Sam	San Angelo	TX
W7DML	Richard	Salt Lake City	UT	N4OLN	Gary	Conyers	GA
W5DPT	Louis	Deer Park	TX	K9PUI	Dick		IN
W5DY	Rodney	Goliad	TX	K5QOW	Gary	Reagan Wells	TX
W5ESE	Scott	Dripping Springs	TX	N5RL	Randy	San Antonio	TX
WD0ESF	Mike	Medicine Lodge	KS	KB5TCH	Carroll	Douglassville	TX
W5FEA	Jim	Graham	TX	KD5TXD, W5ZD	Pat	Kingsville	TX
AG9G	Dwight		WI	W5TMO	Mike	Austin	TX
KK4HCF	Sam	Maryville	TN	WB5UPS	Ron	Port Neches	TX
N0JL	Jim	Chillicothe	IA	K4VIZ	Tom	Conway	AR
K6JT	Steve	Plano	TX	W5VXI	Dave	Caddo Mills	TX
AA5JW	Carl	Stafford	TX	WB8WKQ	Jeff	Dryden	MI
K5KV	Benny	Star	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 2013

Total Sessions 31, Total Check-ins 81, Total Traffic 27 by 9 different operators.

May 2013 QNS

May	Callsign	Name	QTH	STATE
31	KB5TCH	Carroll	Douglassville	TX
22	KD5TXD, W5ZD	Pat	Kingsville	TX
10	KD5MMM	Phil	Fentress	TX
4	KK4HCF	Sam	Maryville	TN
4	W5VXI	Dave	Caddo Mills	TX
3	AC5BE	Joe	Houston	TX
3	W5DY	Rodney	Goliad	TX
3	WD0ESF	Mike	Medicine Lodge	KS
1	N5RL	Randy	San Antonio	TX

73!!

**Pat KD5TXD
June 2, 2013**

(RN5 Corner Starts on the next page)

RN5 Corner

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

Hello guys and welcome to Edition 16 of the **RN5 Corner**.

We have now moved the late RN5 frequency to 40 meters (7108). So far it seems to be working much better than 3567, especially when there are T-storms around. The noise level on 40 is much lower. Now if we could just keep the Mexican SSB stations off 7110, the Texas and Louisiana stations would be much happier.

Wouldn't you know, it appears NTS may be the only secure MSG system we have now...

While on the NTS subject, I use a program known as "FLDIGI" for my digital point to point modes. There is now a program to go along with it called "FLMSG" that enables you to handle any emergency messages such as ICS: 203, 205, 206, 213, 214, 216, 309, and other things such as ARRL Radiograms, Red Cross, and Hurricane WX, etc. that the served agencies use. Both these programs are free from the internet.

FLMSG covers every message we may have, and we are now using this in NAVY MARS. It also will work fine with ARES.

Incidentally, in case you're interested, we need more CW operators for NAVY MARS.

We also need more CAN liaison stations and NCS's for RN5. Thanks to those who have been filling in -- your efforts are much appreciated. Looking at the duty roster, we have **six** CAN liaison and NCS slots still open, and all but Wednesday's DRN5 slots are also open. If you are hesitant to sign up for a regular slot because you are not sure you can make it all the time, don't be. All of us have things that come up which prevent fulfilling our assigned duties - bad weather, family issues, special events or meetings, vacations, etc. As long as you can make it "most of the time", that is all anyone can ask.

BTW, if you have an assigned slot and know ahead of time you won't be able to make it, please let me and/or other RN5 stations know so we can try to arrange a sub.

Finally, if necessary, any late outbound traffic can be handled by myself, K6JT or W4SU.

Thanks and 73, Frank W4DLZ
RN5/4 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	KZ8Q	W4DLZ	W5CU	WA4ZPZ	W4SU	W4DLZ	K4VIZ
NCS #2	KZ8Q	W4DLZ	W5CU	WA4ZPZ	W4SU	W4DLZ	K4VIZ
CAN TX	Open	WA4ZPZ	K4VIZ	Open	K5KV	Open	K5KV
CAN RX	Open	W4DLZ	Open	K6JT	Open	W4DLZ	W5CU
DRN5	Open	Open	K5RG	Open	Open	Open	Open

May 2013 Statistics

SESSIONS	60
QTC	154
QNI	408
QTR	632
CAN TX REP	97%
CAN RX REP	98%
DRN5 / HBN REP	60%

The following roster shows stations coming to RN5 in the past 2 years and their sections.

Region Net 5 Roster

Call	Name	Section	Call	Name	Section
W4AGL	JIM	FL	AA4HT	BOB	FL
K4AKC	TOM	AL	W8IM	DEAN	FL
WA4BAM	JOHN	FL	WA5JAN	JIM	AR
WA5CAV	DICK	LA	K6JT	STEVE	TX
W5CU	SAM	OK*	KA5KLU	DOUG	TX
AC5CW	ERIC	LA	K5KV	BENNY	TX
K09D	BENNY	IN	K8KV	BEN	FL
W4DLZ	FRANK	FL	WA5LQZ	ALAN	LA
K5DMC	JER	MS	K5MC	MICKEY	LA
WD4DNC	BARRY	FL	N5NVP	JIM	LA
AD4DO	JOHN	FL	K4PG	KEVIN	FL
W5DTR	CURT	IL	KZ8Q	BEN	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

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

73, Frank W4DLZ