

# *The Texan*

Newsletter of the Texas NTS CW Net (TEX)

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

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March 2013



## **7290 Picnic is April 20**

The annual 7290 Traffic Net picnic is coming soon. Just one month away now. Complete details are on the 7290 website at [http://www.7290trafficnet.org/\\_mgxroot/page\\_10812.html](http://www.7290trafficnet.org/_mgxroot/page_10812.html) . As with last year, it is being held in the SPJST Lodge Hall near Taylor, TX, a short distance to the East of Round Rock (north Austin). I am going to try to get an elder-sitter for my father so I can drive down for the afternoon (and then back in the evening), but that is not yet certain. Rodney, W5DY, plans to be there, and I've heard from a few other TEX'ans that they are planning to attend as well, so it would be a good opportunity to meet in person some of the folks you hear and work on TEX. Note that in addition to 7290, the Texas Traffic Net also has a presentation, and TEX has time allotted, too. The Pfeiffer Pfist will be awarded at the picnic, per past custom, so come out and see who the deserving TEX member will be !

## **Time and Possible Frequency Change**

Now that we have returned to daylight time (seems like we were only on standard for a couple months !), band conditions have changed, particularly for the early TEX session. Because it is still light, the D-layer of the Ionosphere still has some density, resulting in signal attenuation on 80 meters. Rodney and I have tested 40 meters, 7053 KHz, and found that it works as well as 80 for our path, but we need to check that long skip is not going to compromise net operation before switching. The current thought is to switch to 40 meters for early TEX some time in April, likely mid-month. An email notice will be sent out at least a week in advance of the change.

## **George Hart Series**

Here is the 4th installment of the George Hart Series, for your reading pleasure. George and Ed really get to feel the power of motivation!

## **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*

## Tapping the Trolley Line

The year 1927 was almost a constant struggle to put out a decent signal of decent quality. Bunch was continually frustrated by little response to calls and by weak signal reports when we did get an answer, hampered by a low budget and lack of knowledge to make a better showing. First he tried a chemical rectifier, known in ham circles then as "slop jars." This consisted of a number of emptied mayonnaise jars, as many as 20, each filled with borax or baking soda solution (he tried both) with copper electrodes in each jar all connected in series with the plate voltage line to the UX-210 oscillator tube. The borax solution smoothed out the 60-cycle rasp but there was a horrific voltage drop, making our signal much weaker than it already was. The baking soda solution solved the voltage drop problem but did little to smooth out the a.c. ripple. Then we tried Kenotrons, with their bright filaments. I think an early version of high vacuum rectifier tubes, but these too showed a considerable voltage drop. Bunch was not willing to sacrifice signal strength for quality, but he very much wanted the latter. We knew that batteries for plate voltage would accomplish this, but achieving the necessary voltage by batteries was completely impractical.

Just below our radio room, about 500 feet down a steep bank, a trolley track traversed the side of the embankment along College Avenue. It had been in operation for many years, using small "Toonerville" cars capable of carrying 20 or 30 passengers, powered by an overhead line which supplied 600 volts for the car motors. In our quest for getting DC for our 210 plate supply, Bunch discovered that the 600 volts the trolley used was D.C. from motor-generators at the "car barn" in west Easton. All he had to do was tap the overhead trolley line. In the days of youth no task is daunting. Bunch and I started collecting scraps of wire with the idea of running a line through the trees down to the trolley line. By mid-summer, working surreptitiously, we had collected enough No. 14 wire to complete the span, fastened together by tight Western Union splices, which were wrapped tightly with friction tape. We had contemplated using the ground for the return circuit, but Bunch decided this would be unsatisfactory, so we had to scrounge up another length of wire, spliced as before but this time insulation was not a factor. This line was connected to one of the spikes on the trolley track and run along the ground to our third floor window. The "hot" line was run through the crotch of trees along the embankment, requiring a lot of climbing, mostly by Bunch.

At last, some time in September, all was in readiness except the final connection to the trolley line. Bunch climbed the tree nearest and above the overhead line, fashioned a sort of hook with doubled wire and threw it over the line. There were a few sparks, then nothing. Bunch used no gloves, relied only on the somewhat tattered insulation on the scrounged wire. It's a wonder he wasn't electrocuted.

We looked at each other in wonderment. Did we really have our 600 volts D.C.? We scrambled up the embankment, up the stairs to the third floor. All was in readiness. The hot line coming in the window was fastened to an open SPST knife switch, the other end of the switch to the plate voltage lead. Bunch turned on the filament switch and we sat staring in horrid fascination at the plate switch, as though it were a coiled snake about to strike. Finally, Bunch said, "Well, here goes," and threw the switch.

My usually good memory deserts me at this point. All I remember is an eye-numbing flash of light, then silence. There must have been a noise, smoke, exclamations, but none of this is in

my memory bank. Bunch was unhurt, perhaps momentarily stunned, as I was. As soon as we had recovered, we scampered back down the stairs, down the embankment to the tracks. There was our hot line lying across the track. Bunch quickly removed it, coiled it up and hid it behind a bush.

"I hope we didn't stop all the trolleys in Easton and Pittsburgh," Bunch said, raising a new horrid possibility. We sat on the embankment and waited. The trolleys normally came about every twenty minutes. A few minutes later one of the little cars rounded the corner at the foot of College Avenue and started its laborious climb up the incline. We were both physically and emotionally drained – tired from the labor of stringing and connecting the wires, disappointed at the outcome, but feeling relief that we had done no damage, either to ourselves or the community. We went back to our raw A.C. plate supply.

Coming in Part 5: BCI

### **TEX Mailbox:**

**Pat, KD5TXD**, is still looking for a new manager to take over TSN. In spite of having given up the managership, she has sent in another TSN Corner report which follows the TEX newsletter. Pat also sent this humorous (she is good at that) anecdote about something that happened recently at her QTH:

You remember all the stories about Charles' antennas and antenna tower? Sure you do. Charles had several of his beam antennas set up on metal saw horses in the yard by the barn. Had is the key word here. I parked my little car in the driveway and forgot to set the parking brake. Now my world is very flat. Normally it shouldn't matter if I set the brake or not, but we had a terrible north wind blowing. We had 65 mile per hour winds with higher gusts on that fateful day.

I was up on the deck about to enter the house when out of the corner of my eye I saw my little car very slowly rolling down the driveway toward the barn. Oh, NO! I had visions of my little car entering the barn but not through the barn door. I dropped my purse and packages and started running after my little car. I don't run very fast and by the time I was "running", the car was moving a lot faster than I ever could. I soon was relieved to realize that my car was going to miss the barn. However, it was going to crash into Charles' stack of beam antenna parts. It was pretty obvious I was not going to catch up with the car even if it was going into the side of the barn so I stopped to watch the great crash in slow motion.

The car rolled up to the saw horse on one side of the stack and knocked it over. All the aluminum poles and parts made a horrific sound as they crashed to the ground. There is a very large galvanized pipe which was supposed to be used as part of the antenna tower's tilt down process. Not sure how that was supposed to work. That very large galvanized pipe dropped to the ground behind the car and stopped the wheels from rolling any farther, saving the actual antennas from being crushed. Nothing is broken on the car or the pile of antenna parts.

I didn't tell Charles about my little adventure. We are living in a drought down here and the grass is crispy dry so there is a telltale track of the car wheels on the grass leading up to the

fallen pile of antenna parts. Charles hasn't noticed his antenna parts nor the incriminating tire tracks through the crispy dry grass. If it would just rain so the grass would turn green no one will know the truth. I can blame the fallen pile of antenna parts on our roaming cows. The cows have been allowed into the yard area to seek out any stray blades of grass they can find. They have eaten all of my herb garden, garlic chives, parsley, basil and others, so they are pre-seasoned for market. They would be the perfect fall guys if I could just hide the tire tracks. I guess I should go out and set up the tipped saw horse and re stack Charles's antenna parts... but not today. 73!! Pat KD5TXD

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Received the following from **Scott, N7NET**, in response to reading the 2 stories from Vic, W7VSE, in last month's newsletter. Scott wrote: I saw Vic's name in the latest Texan newsletter and I thought it would be timely to attach a face on this gentleman's call. Vic is a personal friend, has been for 25 years.

I'm attaching a photo. It was 1985, I think, we had just finished participating in a model railroad activity where we sent messages across a large building similar to the one where we hold our HamCom using American Morse.

We are, left to right: Vic, W7VSE; Scott, N7NET; Bob (SK) and I've forgotten his call; Dave, WB7VSN.



Vic was a radio operator during World War II and a train dispatcher afterward. He was our Section Manager at the time of this photograph.

Dave grew up in the Los Angeles SP Depot and was proficient with American Morse by age 10. During World War II he was a personal telegrapher for General Douglas MacArthur.

During this model train activity Dave took the messages from visitors and sent them to Vic over a hard wire who copied them on Western Union message blanks. One man wanted a heart sent to his daughter and gave the instructions to Dave. Vic copied the heart as per instructions via the Morse. But when the man picked up his message he voiced his disappointment, "This is not my writing."

Best regards, Scott/n7net

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Heard from **Bob, K6YBV**, who has been checking into late TEX quite often these days. He sent the following link to a YouTube video of San Francisco while his band plays on the audio track. Very good job. Check it out. Bob wrote: Some of you, the ones who are on the traffic nets that I check into, may often wonder why I am not on more often.

I am a professional musician. I used to make my living playing music. Now I still do it but on the side for fun and profit.

Several years ago we had a comedy Jazz band called The Boondockers. Here is one of our recordings. I am playing piano and singing.

A very talented lady from St Louis made a video using us.

Enjoy.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kpgrYubdeoE&list=UUeBFPKC-3MM2kLCjjqZsQEg>

73, Bob Ringwald K6YBV

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I heard from both **Ed, KS5V**, and **Randy, N5RL**. Each of them has had gall bladder problems. Ed's health issues are quite serious, and I ask you to keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Randy had to have surgery to remove his gallbladder - the old fashioned "hard" way (large incision). He is now recovering and hopes to be well enough to attend the 7290 picnic. Better skip the Barbecue this year, though, Randy. Randy's wife has also been ill and in the hospital, so his radio activities have, of necessity, been curtailed lately.

We all wish the both of you the very best and pray for successful treatment outcomes.

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**Pete, K5GM**, sent the following, which is a quote from Fred Jensen, K6DGW, talking about the efforts of the CWOps group to increase real QSO's instead of quickie "599 TU", and the question of whether NTS traffic-handling qualifies. Fred makes some very good points.

"In the days when NTS handled actual traffic addressed to someone known to the originator, we had BPL, a fairly well respected operating award. Today, 98% of the "traffic" is created automagically by mining the FCC database for new and renewed licenses and sending canned congratulatory messages to people totally unknown to the originator. In fact, the text is never sent, we all have copies of it for each of the stations keyed by the check. The other 2% are net reports from control stations to net managers summarizing the handling of those canned messages. :-) BPL is pretty much meaningless under these circumstances, but then, NTS is sort of anachronistic too."

Fred is still active on NCN (Northern California Net).

Thought it was worth passing on.

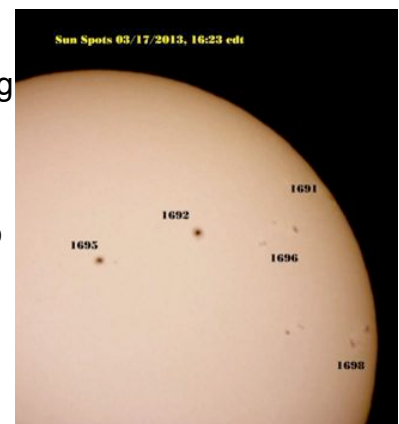
73, Pete

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**Pat, KD5TXD**, sent a couple pictures. She took the first one on the 14th using their star-gazing equipment. Not sure where the Sun Spot picture was obtained. The one to the left shows the comet Pan-STARR, and the one to the right shows sunspot activity on March 17th.

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## TEX Net Topics

There are 5 backup slots open (shown in **yellow**) and **1** open liaison slot (shown in **red**) still in need of a station for Thursday early RN5. Ready to take it on, anyone? Thanks again to Rodney for filling in most Thursdays. A few changes were made to the backup slots, primarily K5KV and W5DY shifting a little, so Benny and Rodney, please check if they are OK.

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. A few changes were made to the roster.

***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 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      |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|--------|----------|-------------|
| <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        | K5KV        | 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      | W5DY        | K5KV   | K6JT     | <i>Open</i> |

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

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

TSN: **3570** - 19:45 CT; CAN: **3552**/3595/7052/7108 - 20:30 CT; PAN: **3552**/7052 - 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          | N7NET  | Scott | McKinney            |
| W6CL    | Carol   | Tulsa OK         | N5NVP  | Jim   | Scott LA            |
| W5CU    | Sam     | Edmond OK        | K5QOW  | Gary  | Reagan Wells        |
| W5DH    | Tom     | Dallas           | WA5MUF | Bill  | Watauga             |
| W4DLZ   | Frank   | Florida          | W5OMR  | Geoff | Houston             |
| * W5DY  | Rodney  | Goliad           | * 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           | W5UFK  | Ken   | College Station     |
| * K6JT  | Steve   | Plano            | KS5V   | Ed    | Bulverde            |
| KA5KLU  | Doug    | San Antonio      | WB8WKQ | Jeff  | Michigan            |
| * K5KV  | Benny   | Star             | K6YBV  | Bob   | Placerville CA      |
| * W6LFB | Jim     | Denton           | W5ZD   | Pat   | Kingsville (KD5TXD) |
| WA5MS   | Marty   | Highland Village |        |       |                     |

\* Capable of 160 meter operation

**Statistics:**

Traffic and check-ins were slightly up on a per-net basis compared to last month. No RN5 slots were missed.

Jim, W5FEA, with a perfect 56 out of 56 (100%) took first, Randy, N5RL, with 42 (75%) edged out Benny, K5KV, with 41 (73%) for second and third. Thanks fellows for your excellent support. Thanks to all of you who checked in for your support, too, as checkins have steadily climbed each month.

We had 2 visitors to the net including Paul, K1PKZ from Tom Bean TX, and (once again several times) Bob, K6YBV, from northern CA.

The complete list of stations and traffic / liaison totals are shown in the following table. Traffic averaged 3.4 per net session (3.2 last month). Net time averaged 12.5 minutes per session (compared to 12.4 last month). Check-ins averaged 6.8 per session (6.6 last month).

**TEX Net Statistics (February 2013)**

| Call   | Name     | QNI | Total | NCS | RN5 | TTN | DFW | TSN |
|--------|----------|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| WA5CAV | Dick     | 1   | 2     |     |     |     |     |     |
|        | LA       | 1   |       |     |     |     |     |     |
| W5CU   | Sam      | 16  | 30    |     | 8   |     |     |     |
| *      |          | 14  |       |     | 7   |     |     |     |
| W5DH   | Tom      | 2   | 2     |     |     |     | 2   |     |
|        |          | 0   |       |     |     |     |     |     |
| W5DY   | Rodney   | 21  | 37    | 2   | 5   |     |     |     |
|        |          | 16  |       | 3   |     |     |     |     |
| W5ESE  | Scott    | 14  | 14    |     |     |     |     |     |
| *      |          | 0   |       |     |     |     |     |     |
| W5FEA  | Jim      | 28  | 56    |     |     | 3   |     |     |
| *      |          | 28  |       |     |     | 5   |     |     |
| W5GKH  | Charlie  | 8   | 16    | 8   |     |     |     |     |
| *      |          | 8   |       | 8   |     |     |     |     |
| K5GM   | Pete     | 10  | 22    |     |     |     |     |     |
| *      |          | 12  |       |     |     |     |     |     |
| W9GVW  | Eric     | 1   | 1     |     |     |     |     |     |
| *      |          | 0   |       |     |     |     |     |     |
| K6JT   | Steve    | 14  | 41    |     | 1   |     | 14  |     |
| *      |          | 27  |       | 8   | 8   |     | 27  |     |
| K5KV   | Benny    | 19  | 41    | 4   | 8   |     |     |     |
|        |          | 22  |       | 4   | 13  |     |     |     |
| W6LFB  | Jim      | 1   | 1     |     |     |     |     |     |
| *      |          | 0   |       |     |     |     |     |     |
| N5NVP  | Jim      | 0   | 1     |     |     |     |     |     |
|        |          | 1   |       |     |     |     |     |     |
| K1PKZ  | Paul     | 1   | 1     |     |     |     |     |     |
|        | Tom Bean | 0   |       |     |     |     |     |     |
| K5QOW  | Gary     | 12  | 12    |     |     | 9   |     |     |
| *      |          | 0   |       |     |     |     |     |     |



| Call   | Name  | QNI | Total | NCS  | RN5       | TTN | DFW | TSN |
|--------|-------|-----|-------|------|-----------|-----|-----|-----|
| K5RG   | Ken   | 2   | 12    |      |           |     |     |     |
| *      |       | 10  |       |      |           |     |     |     |
| N5RL   | Randy | 23  | 42    | 6    | 6         | 10  |     |     |
| *      |       | 19  |       |      |           | 16  |     |     |
| W5TMO  | Mike  | 0   | 12    |      |           |     |     |     |
| *      |       | 12  |       | 5    |           |     |     |     |
| KD5TXD | Pat   | 9   | 10    | 8    |           |     |     |     |
| *      |       | 1   |       |      |           |     |     |     |
| KS5V   | Ed    | 10  | 19    |      |           |     |     |     |
| *      |       | 9   |       |      |           |     |     |     |
| K6YBV  | Bob   | 0   | 9     |      |           |     |     |     |
|        | CA    | 9   |       |      |           |     |     |     |
| Totals |       | 381 |       | 56   | 56        | 43  | 43  | 0   |
|        |       |     |       | 100% | 100%      | 77% | 77% | 0%  |
| QTC 1  |       | 73  | 192   |      |           |     |     |     |
| QTC 2  |       | 119 |       |      | Sessions: | 56  |     |     |
| Time 1 |       | 330 | 700   |      |           |     |     |     |
| Time 2 |       | 370 |       |      |           |     |     |     |

### Operating:

For those of you coming from the SSB nets, note that per the NTS Methods and Practices Guide, when acknowledging a message on CW, just a simple "QSL" is all that is needed. There is no requirement to send the message number, which *is* standard procedure on voice nets.

I'll mention this once again in case you missed it before: Use QSP to indicate you can relay a message (or deliver it). Use QNB when relaying the callsign of a station checking in that the NCS does not hear or when relaying between 2 stations who have trouble copying each other. When the NCS sends QNB? it indicates he hears someone trying to check in but needs help copying the callsign due to noise or insufficient received signal strength. In that case, if you have copied the other station, send a hail-sign (like when you check in) to get the NCS' attention and then send what you heard when you are acknowledged.

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  
[http://www.atcweb.com/tsn/Texas\\_Slow\\_Net.htm](http://www.atcweb.com/tsn/Texas_Slow_Net.htm)  
 Looking for new TSN Net Manager

*The telegraph key image is courtesy of FCIT*

### Greetings from the Wild Horse Desert - Home of KD5TXD

TSN is still in desperate need of a new net manager. The Net Manager duties are to keep record of checkins and traffic handled and report that to the Section Traffic Manager. You don't have to be on the air every night like Arley and Pat were. I currently keep the stats on an Excel spread sheet. As long as I get the reports from the NCS stations I can keep the stats for you. The TSN Net Manager does not have to be a Texas station according to research by Rodney, W5DY, our South Texas Traffic Manager. TSN currently has three Net Control Stations; KB5TCH, KD5TXD and KD5MMM. It would be good to try to promote the net and bring in more participants. I haven't been able to do that successfully. If we can't get a new Net Manager we can continue to run the net as long as Rodney gets a report from TSN. I can keep doing the reports.

TSN is currently meeting on our new frequency, 3570. We had only one day where we needed to move off frequency to avoid a QSO. That is a good sign. So, if you would like to take over the duties of Net Manager, please let me know. Someone, please help us out.

Welcome to KX5C, Ron in Silsbee and KK4HCF, Sam in Maryville, TN. Good to have you visit. Please come back often.

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!!

### February 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 |
| W5DPT  | Louis  | Deer Park        | TX | N4OLN        | Gary    | Conyers       | GA |
| W5DY   | Rodney | Goliad           | TX | K9PUI        | Dick    |               | IN |
| W5ESE  | Scott  | Dripping Springs | TX | K5QOW        | Gary    | Reagan Wells  | TX |
| WD0ESF | Mike   | Medicine Lodge   | KS | N5RL         | Randy   | San Antonio   | TX |
| W5FEA  | Jim    | Graham           | TX | KB5TCH       | Carroll | Douglassville | TX |
| AG9G   | Dwight |                  | WI | KD5TXD, W5ZD | Pat     | Kingsville    | TX |
| KK4HCF | Sam    | Maryville        | TN | W5TMO        | Mike    | Austin        | TX |
| N0JL   | Jim    | Chillicothe      | IA | WB5UPS       | Ron     | Port Neches   | TX |
| K6JT   | Steve  | Plano            | TX | K4VIZ        | Tom     | Conway        | AR |
| AA5JW  | Carl   | Stafford         | TX | W5VXI        | Dave    | Caddo Mills   | TX |
| K5KV   | Benny  | Star             | TX | WB8WKQ       | Jeff    | Dryden        | MI |

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 February 2013**

Total Sessions 28, Total Check-ins 82, Total Traffic 27 by 11 different operators.

**February 2013 QNS**

| <b>February</b> | <b>Callsign</b> | <b>Name</b> | <b>QTH</b>     | <b>STATE</b> |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| 25              | KB5TCH          | Carroll     | Douglassville  | TX           |
| 24              | KD5TXD, W5ZD    | Pat         | Kingsville     | TX           |
| 9               | WD0ESF          | Mike        | Medicine Lodge | KS           |
| 8               | KD5MMM          | Phil        | Fentress       | TX           |
| 6               | W5VXI           | Dave        | Caddo Mills    | OK           |
| 4               | KX5C            | Ron         | Silsbee        | TX           |
| 2               | W5DY            | Rodney      | Goliad         | TX           |
| 1               | AC5BE           | Joe         | Houston        | TX           |
| 1               | W5FEA           | Jim         | Graham         | TX           |
| 1               | KK4HCF          | Sam         | Maryville      | TN           |
| 1               | W6CL            | Carol       | Tulsa          | OK           |

**73!!**

**Pat KD5TXD**

**March 16, 2013**

(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@ARRL.NET)  
RN5 Net Manager

Hello again and welcome to Edition 13 of the **RN5 Corner**.

Sorry I have been off the air so long, but now all is back in working order and I will be more regular on the net. Received the rig back from repair only to find that the battery used to power it had developed some problems. Thanks to Steve, K6JT, who sent me a JetStream DC power supply so that I can now operate at full power.

I came across this article about "Solar flares closing in on Earth" and what it could mean for our infrastructures and radio operations. Once again this demonstrates why we need CW Nets and old Microwave ovens -- having a spare solid state rig in an oven will protect it from EMP. Otherwise we need tube-only rigs on hand. Click the link below for the main article.

[http://email.wnd.com/HM?  
a=ENX7CqowuK3R8SA9MKJTVUvnGHxKLSQMmPcStGb5lw8W0bBhOG5mpqVsje\\_Hhe-  
ud1La](http://email.wnd.com/HM?a=ENX7CqowuK3R8SA9MKJTVUvnGHxKLSQMmPcStGb5lw8W0bBhOG5mpqVsje_Hhe-ud1La)

The duty roster is looking much better now, but we still need CAN coverage. Mondays are the worst with neither a TX nor RX station on the roster. Thanks to all of you who have been filling in on an as-available basis for CAN liaison. Special thanks to Tom, K4VIZ, for being there on many nights. Jim, W4AGL has also been helping a lot. Maintaining CAN liaison is very important, as you read in last months' newsletter in the article by W2RU.

The Net Roster has been updated with a couple new stations. If you know of others that check in regularly, please advise both myself and K6JT so the roster can be updated.

We now have a new Central Area Staff Chairman. Jim, N0JL, the manager of cycle 4 CAN, is now the new Chair. Congratulations to Jim, and we all need to support him in his new job.

Some efforts are underway to set out some guidelines for creation of bulk "book" traffic. I came across the guidelines published by the Pacific Area Staff Chair, K6YR. We are working on something similar that we hope will be adopted by all 3 Area Staffs. More on that at a later date. In the meantime, you can see what PAN has done at:

<http://home.earthlink.net/~k7bfl/pan/6thDraftG.pdf>

73,  
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 | KZ8Q   | W4DLZ   | W5CU      | WA4ZPZ   | W4SU   | W4DLZ    | K4VIZ  |
| NCS #2 | KZ8Q   | W4DLZ   | W5CU      | WA4ZPZ   | W4SU   | W4DLZ    | K4VIZ  |
| CAN TX | Open   | WA4ZPZ  | K4VIZ     | Open     | K5KV   | K5KV     | K5KV   |
| CAN RX | Open   | W4DLZ   | Open      | K6JT     | Open   | W4DLZ    | W5CU   |
| DRN5   | Open   | Open    | K5RG      | Open     | Open   | Open     | Open   |

### February 2013 Statistics (Incomplete reports)

|            |     |
|------------|-----|
| SESSIONS   | 54  |
| QTC        | 146 |
| QNI        | 334 |
| QTR        | 612 |
| CAN TX REP | 90% |
| CAN RX REP | 93% |
| DRN5 REP   | 42% |

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      | 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