

The Texan

Newsletter of the Texas NTS CW Net (TEX)

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

Net Manager: Steve Phillips, K6JT, Plano TX
(k6jt@arrl.net , 214-208-8900)

TEX Web Site: <http://k6jt.home.att.net/>

Assistant Manager: Rodney Baker, W5DY, Goliad TX
(w5dy@arrl.net)

May 2009



Better Late than Never

As many of you know, I spent another week at W0CXX in Iowa this past month. I came home with more work to do than I had when I left. As a result, I have not had a "day off" in 3 weeks, so this newsletter had to be delayed. The good news is that the 7290 picnic went well and there are some pictures in here, courtesy of Charlie, W5GKH, and Pat, KD5TXD, for you all to enjoy.

7290 Picnic on May 9th

Rodney, W5DY, stepped in to handle the TEX portion of the picnic meeting. Thank you, Rodney! He did a great job, from what I have heard. He even sent me an "outline" of what he presented. So you can all get a little flavor of what went on, here are some notes from his presentation:

"Thanks Jo Ann, it is our pleasure to be able to have our meeting along with this great gathering of ham radio operators.

My name is Rodney and my call is W5DY. I am the assistant net manager of TEX. Most know us as the Texas CW Traffic Net, but the official name is Tex CW NTS Section Traffic Net. The net meets twice daily at 7 and 10 pm and currently averages 360 checkins and 190 pieces of traffic per month.

Steve Phillips, K6JT, is our net manager. He could not make it due to caring for his invalid father. Steve is an excellent net manager. He is very good at keeping everyone informed about what is happening, and puts out an extremely interesting newsletter each month. More and more articles are being submitted by the net members which makes for good reading and we actually learn a little more about each other. Anyone interested our website is: k6jt.home.att.net/

The net is a fun place to visit. Those who want to rag chew can ask permission to call their station and go off frequency, or like most of us, just wait until the net is over. Most of the net controls operate at 16 to 22 wpm, but if that is too fast, they will slow down to a speed that is comfortable for you.

Net members present with us here beside myself are: Bert, AC5Z, Charlie, W5GKH, Pat, KD5TXD, and Chuck (CW moniker Lee), AA5J, the manager of the Texas Slow net. Thank you all for coming.

At this time we will have the Pfeifer Pfist Award, which is presented to the person who has shown the most devotion to the net and has improved in both traffic handling and operating technique. Last year, Pat, KD5TXD, received the award. This year it will remain with her as she again is the most deserving of it. Congratulations again Pat !



This concludes our meeting. I want to extend a warm welcome to anyone who wishes to join in on one of our nets. You will always be made to feel at home and we welcome you. For all the Tex CW members, thanks and 73.”

HAMCOM is June 12-13 at the Plano Centre

Considering how late I am with this newsletter, I will likely not have the June issue out until after HAMCOM. It is on Friday and Saturday this year, June 12th and 13th. I have heard from a few of you about your planned attendance. I do plan to attend, at least for some of the sessions (already bought an entry). Rodney had also planned to drive his “bus” up for the event, but has since discovered there is a conflict with a family affair in San Antonio that weekend, so he will not be able to make it.

The schedule of events is not yet available as I write this. Check <http://www.hamcom.org/> after May 18 for the official “Hamcom Flyer”. Without knowing the schedule of sessions, it is difficult to choose a time where those of us who attend can meet and possibly go out to eat something together. I know there will be another “traffic handling” session by Jo Ann, KA5AZK, so that may be the place to meet. I will send out an informational E-Mail once more is known. Meanwhile, if you are planning to attend, let me know if you have not yet done so.

Ken, K5RG, will attend (see TEX Mailbox) and Bert, AC5Z, also said he planned to go. I am sure Lee, AA5J, will also try to attend, although he has not told me yet.

W1NJM Saga

Thanks to Sis, WD8DIN, the editor of the "Traffic Call" newsletter of the Hit and Bounce Net (HBN – 0730 CT, 7042 KHz), for passing along George Hart's saga of the "early days". Here's Part 25 of George Hart's recollections. Geo's Introduction and Tour at ARRL

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.

Chapter 25 - What was up at ARRL Headquarters

It was then back to La Salle Road in West Hartford and the League's headquarters since 1931. They had at first rented only the second floor. The first floor was a bowling alley (duckpins) and members of the staff often bowled during their noon lunch hour. The bowling establishment didn't last long and the League took over the first floor and basement, occupying the entire building. Circulation and Shipping Departments occupied the first floor, along with the front entrance and reception foyer. The second floor housed the general manager's office and staff, the Advertising Department, Communications Department, Technical Department and the lab. Mr. Handy introduced me to the Assistant Communications Manager, Ev Battey, W1UE, and other members of the staff, including stenog Lil Salter. He left me to chat with Ev, whom I had never met in person but many times on the air, while he finished up some work at his desk, then he gave me a personally conducted tour of the building during which I met Technical Editor George Grammer, W1DF, and his staff: Don Mix, W1TS, Byron Goodman, W1JPE, Vern Chambers, W1JEQ, and Tom Ferrill, W1UI, with whom I later Played chess at his room on Selden Hill (more on Selden Hill later).

In the "front office" General Manager and Secretary K.B. Warner, W1EH, was momentarily absent but I met A.L. Budlong, W1JFN, his assistant. Advertising Manager F.C. Beekley, W1GS, gave me a typically hearty greeting. Down on the first floor I got an even heartier greeting from Arthur Hebert, W1ES, League Treasurer, who expressed great pleasure at welcoming new young members to the staff. Circulation Manager, David Houghton acknowledged my presence with a curt nod, but I found him later to be one of the most congenial staff members. QST Managing Editor Clark Rodimon, W1SZ, stood up to shake hands.

I was familiar with most of those names before coming to headquarters, from having seen their names in QST, but meeting them in person was awe-inspiring. I began to look forward to further acquaintanceship.

The attention I received on that first day was not yet over. Mr. Handy took me out to Newington to visit the new W1AW and to meet my immediate boss, Hal Bubb, W1JTD. Hal greeted me warmly, then went into earnest discussion about the equipment, which was in the last stages of assembly. I looked in awe at the row of black crackle relay racks housing four kilowatt transmitters, each with its own power supply, each crystal-controlled using Bliley X-cut crystals, ground to frequencies which would be used by W1AW. The final amplifiers were different for each transmitter, tubes having been donated or provided at big discounts by manufacturers eager to have them used in the all-new W1AW transmitters. On 160 a pair of

RCA 204A's running at 500 watts. On 80, push-pull HK354's at a full kilowatt. On 40, Amperex HF200's, and on 20 Eimac 250TH's. The 10-meter kilowatt transmitter was in the early stages, not expected to take the air for the early September grand opening, but would use a pair of RCA 806's.

The six relay racks (by Budd) were spaced two-by-two near but not against the back wall of the building and were completely enclosed with interlocks on the doors of each with a "Danger High Voltage" sign that came on whenever the doors were opened. One of the six racks housed the 500-watt class B modulator using Taylor 822 tubes, switchable to one of the 160, 80 or 20 meter transmitter by large 3PDT knife switches. The operating position faced the fronts of these six racks from a distance of perhaps 12 feet and contained the HRO receiver and a small panel of toggle switches to control each transmitter. Left of the operating position were two more 6-foot relay racks to be used for additional equipment in the future. All control wiring was under the floor, giving the main operating room a neat and clean appearance.

Hal also showed me the rest of the small building. On the north side was a small workshop which could be used for minor repairs, but major repairs had to take place at the ARRL lab in West Hartford, about 5 miles away. Adjoining this workshop was a small waiting room equipped with a sofa bed, table and album of W1AW memorabilia, the purpose being for visitors wishing a tour of the facilities to wait the operator's convenience. On the south side of the building was a garage in which the operator's car could be parked to keep it out of foul weather. On the ceiling of the garage was a retractable ladder to access the attic in which was stored some of the equipment salvaged from the former headquarters station, W1MK, at Brainard Field in Hartford, which had been ruined by flood waters in 1936.

In the front of the building was the memorial lobby, which would house a large memorial dedication plaque to Hiram Percy Maxim, the founder of ARRL and its first president. Visitors would enter via this door, be shown the memorial plaque and be asked to wait in the waiting room until the operator could show them around. The front door faced Newington's North Main Street down an embankment with a paved entrance road and parking space on all sides of the building. There was also an access door in the back into the workshop. The manually controlled garage door was normally kept closed and could be opened only from the inside.

Coming in Chapter 26 - The W1AW "antenna farm" in the seven-acre field in back of the new building.

TEX Mailbox:

Newt, KJ9J, sent me a radiogram from his summer QTH in Indiana. He sends his best to everyone and plans to be back with us again in the fall.

Ken, K5RG, wrote (on April 18): I have returned from the mountains with probably the worst part of the trip being from Denver to Houston!! Between the snow storm in Denver and flooding in Houston, it took me sixteen hours to fly from Los Angeles to Houston.

Having no need to use any of the "scheduled" contingency days in the climbing plans in addition to the second trekking peak (Island Peak) being unclimbable (very little snow this season resulted in numerous crevasses), I got back to Houston about a week earlier than planned. Of course when the horse is heading to the barn - stand aside.



The overall trip was great and the key part was my health held up and I didn't get 'sick', which was not the norm within the group. I did have a day on the first part of the return trip where it looked like the entire Baylor medical faculty showed up next to my bed because I was feeling poorly. Four doctors that were part of the Lhotse climbing group that was a week behind my Everest group came to examine me when I missed dinner. They concluded that I was just very tired, so with a personal Sherpa guide (Pema Sherpa) and a porter to carry my duffel bags, I took an extra day getting back to

Kathmandu from Everest base camp. This may have been the best part of the trip since it allowed me to experience the native culture by myself rather than as part of a large trekking group. It does look like I lost 12 pounds but the food was even better than past trips and Camille has stocked the refrig with plenty of Haagen Dazs and cookies so this will be a short term issue! 73, Ken

(Note: The picture is of Ken in front of LoBuche Peak in Nepal, holding a copy of "My Table" magazine, based in Houston, in which the picture will appear in the July issue.)

Pat, KD5TXD, sent in this humorous narrative about some activities of their local ham club in Kingsville. It was entitled, "Hams and paint mix too well". Pat writes: "We have been painting...yes, painting. As you may remember we moved our local 146.68 repeater to a new tower (the old sheriff's tower) last year. The repeater shack at the base of the tower is not in the best condition. A donation was made to replace the roof and fascia boards on the building. That meant we needed to do some painting to protect the new boards. That has turned into a several week long adventure.

The first weekend in April was a bit on the rainy side so all we could do was some calking. Needless to say, I am not the best at calking and got more calk on myself than on the building. The fellows patched a hole near the air conditioner where the wasps had entered the building and built nests. Charles hates wasps and other stinging insects and came armed with several spray cans of bug killer. He sprayed nearly every inch of the building, inside and out, and maybe several feet around it trying to make sure every possible evil insect was terminated. It is a miracle that he didn't short out the repeater with all that bug spray.

The next weekend looked promising for some painting if we got an early start. However, the club took a vote on the start time for the painting project and set the time for 9:00 a.m. that Saturday. Never let the club vote on anything. It is always trouble. There isn't a lot of wood to paint so it is not an all day project. At 8:00 a.m. the sun was shining and the birds were singing. It was perfect painting weather. We arrived at 9 a.m. and spent a good 30 minutes deciding who would paint which board on the building. The building has four sides and we had more than four amateurs with ladders, brushes, and primer paint. We seriously debated on whether to paint the old end boards and decided not to paint those.* Another vote...

By the time we were half done putting primer on the new boards it had started to rain. We all got soaked to the bone and finally took refuge inside the repeater shack to wait out the rain. We declared the job done and all headed for home.

The next weekend was our infamous Kingsville Ride on the Wild Side bike race. We had 17 amateurs come out to work the race and had great fun. Once again we voted that the person who designed the bike route must have a mental disorder to create such a convoluted route through the rural parts of Kleberg County. The scenic route took the hapless bikers totally around the local land fill. We declared our efforts to be a stellar success and all went home happy and tired out.

So, this last weekend we had to put the finishing paint on our repeater shack. The vote was again for 9:00 a.m. as a start time on Saturday morning. We had an additional vote that we really needed to re-paint the end boards of the building (see * above). That meant we had to get scrapers and primer out to work on the end boards. We all gathered at the repeater shack. Two of us went to work on the end boards scraping old paint off. Several others attacked the new fascia boards with finishing paint. The amateur in charge of the paint was guarding the primer paint to make sure no one took it in error thinking it was finishing paint. We had to certify in writing which boards we were painting in order to get him to turn paint over to us to apply to the building.

After several weekends dragging our ladders over the rough ground with the over grown grass one bright person decided to go home and get his weed-eater and cut down the grass. Another amateur decided that we really needed to paint the metal doors as they were rusting. (Hmmm...no vote on that) He rushed home to get metal primer paint. Our efforts soon turned into a free for all. Paint of numerous kinds was flying everywhere. It is amazing how well cut grass sticks to wet paint. It was a very successful morning and we all went home happy, tired and spotted with several kinds of paint.

All that is left is to come back "one more time" to put the finishing paint on the end boards and the metal finishing paint on the doors. Our repeater shack will look like new and be ready for anything the elements can hand out. I hate to think of one more Saturday being covered with paint, but we are nearing completion of the project. I failed to get a picture of several club members trying to help Charles get paint out of his beard. Fortunately, my hair is so white that no one could tell if I had paint in my hair or not, one of the benefits of totally white hair.

Thanks and 73!! Pat KD5TXD

P.S. Next month we are looking forward to a club project to build QRP rigs and start a local 40 meter QRP net on 7122."

Lee, AA5J, had more than his share of difficulties this past month. First, he had antenna troubles. Lee wrote: "One side of the antenna was broken loose at the feed point. Insulation was holding the antenna up. A little tug and it came apart. So I was using one-half G5RV. Fixed now." Then, just this past Tuesday, his trusty Omni emitted a squeak and a puff of smoke and went "feet up". Lee was able to get his SDR-1000 working before the end of the net, but was so distressed about it all that he left town the next day to try to forget ☹ Hopefully

he will be able to remedy the problems upon his return. In the meantime, we may need to back him up for his Tuesday NCS/RN5 and Thursday RN5 schedules. Good luck, Lee!

Doug, KA5KLU, wrote in with: "I wish I had more time. My son still does not have his driver's license. He works on a revolving time scale. He doesn't get off most of the time till 10 p.m. and sometimes he goes to work at 6 in the morning and doesn't get off till 10 at night. I meet myself coming and going around here. My wife goes to work at 6:30 gets off at 10 A.M. then goes back in at 4 P.M. and usually gets off at 5 or 5:30. She thinks since I retired I am supposed to take her and pick her up at work.

I haven't been on the radio much for over a year.

Anyway those are my excuses. Good when I do get on it's good to hear you guys. Hope you are doing well. I still write whenever I get the chance. 73, Doug//KA5KLU

Ken, K5RG, wrote regarding Hamcom: Made plans to attend HamCom, flying in early Friday morning, staying at the Hampton Inn on I-75 where I've stayed before, attending the DX Dinner Friday night and departing on Saturday around 2 PM (4 PM flight out of Love Field). I would think Mickey, K5MC is likely to attend as the new Director for his area. Maybe the TX group can get together for lunch on Saturday?? Maybe we could secure a small meeting room at the convention and have lunch right at the site. Getting in and out of the convention site is a pain so going off-site isn't easy but I don't mind. I will have a rental car.

Another suggestion would be the DX Dinner. I surely have no big interest in DX but it is the premier event. Of course the \$40 cost is not desirable but you get a ticket for a FT-2000 door prize!! You might put in the newsletter that some of us will be attending the dinner and could get together at the same dinner table.

Let me know if you plan to attend the DX Dinner so Ken can look for you with an eye toward sharing a table – Ed.

TEX Net Topics

We still have open RN5 slots. Please consider filling one or more of the open slots as a regular or even backup station. We have **11** open NCS/liaison slots, with 4 open *primary* RN5 slots (all shown in **red**)! Thanks again to Sam, W5CU, Scott, W5ESE, and Rodney, W5DY, who have been filling the majority of the openings.

TEX CW Net Weekly Schedule

Local	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
NCS #1	W5GKH	AA5J	KD5TXD	AC5Z	K6JT	AC5Z	W5GKH
Backup	Open	Open	W5DY	W5DY	KD5TXD	W5DY	W5CU
NCS #2	W5GKH	AA5J	KD5TXD	K6JT	N5PWG	W5DY	W5GKH
Backup	K6JT	Open	K6JT	Open	K6JT	Open	K6JT
RN5 #1	W5GKH	AA5J	W5CU	AA5J	Open	Open	W5CU
Backup	W5DY	Open	W5DY	Open	W5ESE	W5ESE	W5GKH
RN5 #2	W5GKH	AA5J	W5CU	AA5J	Open	Open	W5CU
Backup	W5DY	K6JT	W5DY	W5DY	K6JT	W5DY	W5GKH

TEX/1: 3552 at 19:00 local; TEX/2 3552 at 22:00 local
 RN5/1: 3567/7045 at 19:30; RN5/2: 3567 at 21:30 local
 TSN: 3552 - 19:45 local; CAN: 7052/3552 - 20:30 local; PAN: 7052/3552/3557- 22:30 local

RN5 Backup: W5CU, W5DY, W5ESE, W5GKH, K5GM, AA5J, K6JT, K5RG
 NCS Backup: W5DY, N5EL, AA5J, K6JT, KD5TXD, AC5Z

Note that both **CAN** and **PAN** have **moved** to their “summertime” 40 meter (7052) frequencies, effective a couple weeks ago. Late TEX must still try to vacate 3552 before 10:30 in the event PAN sends stations to 80 meters who are within a “skip zone” of each other on 40. No word about RN5 as yet, but 80 seems to still be OK for that. We surely do miss Jim, KB5W, the manager of RN5, who has been out with medical problems for a couple weeks now. We all wish you the best and a speedy recovery, Jim.

Statistics:

Traffic count dropped off this past month, and so did QNI. Rodney, W5DY, with 36 (60%) again took top QNI for the month, followed by Lee, AA5J, with 29 (48%). Bert, AC5Z, and Floyd, N5EL, tied for 3rd with 20 each (33%). Thanks to all who checked in for your support.

It was good to see Brian, N5BA, check in again after his long absence to complete house remodeling.

Had a few visitors this month including: Kevin, K4PG, from FL, Eric, KE5PWL from LA, and Roy, WJ5Z from Tyler. Also glad to have Ken, K5RG, return safely from his mountain climbing adventures.

The complete list of stations and traffic / liaison totals are shown in the following table. Traffic averaged 2.6 per net session (down from 3 last month). Net time averaged 13.6 minutes per session (compared to 15.2 last month). Check-ins averaged 4.9 per session (down from 5.8 last month). Late TEX still often has only 2 or 3 QNI. Remember that late TEX is where the incoming RN5 traffic is listed, so please try to check in when you can.

TEX Net Statistics (April 2009)

			total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW	CTTN	TSN
Call		QNI							
N5BA	Brian	1	1						
		0							
W5CDX	Wads	0	7						
*		7							
W5CU	Sam	7	15		6				
*		8			8				
W5DY	Rodney	17	36	2	6		3		
		19		5	9				
N5EL	Floyd	20	20						
*		0							
W5ESE	Scott	2	2		5			21	14

			total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW	CTTN	TSN
Call		QNI							
*		0							
W5GKH	Charlie	7	15	7	4				
*		8		8	5				
W9GVW	Eric	2	3						
*		1							
AA5J	Chuck	16	29	5	6		3		11
*		13		4	6		1		7
KJ9J	Newt	8	8						
*		0							
K6JT	Steve	7	33	2			7		
*		26		4	2		21		
KA5KLU	Doug	7	7		1				
*		0							
K5KV	Benny	1	3						
		2							
W6LFB	Jim	5	5				1		
*		0							
WA5MUF	Bill	2	3						
*		1							
N5NVP	Jim	3	15						
		12							
K4PG	Kevin	2	2						
	FL	0							
N5PWG	Jay	3	14						
*		11		3					
KE5PWL	Eric	2	2						
	LA	0							
K5RG	Ken	2	3						
*		1							
W5TMO	Mike	0	16						
*		16							
KD5TXD	Pat	10	18	5		10			
*		8		6		1			
AC5Z	Bert	20	20	9					
*		0							
WJ5Z	Roy	0	1						
*	Tyler	1							
Totals		296		60	58	11	36	21	32
				100%	97%	18%	60%	35%	53%
QTC 1		66	158						
QTC 2		92			Sessions:	60			
Time 1		410	814						
Time 2		404							

The roster, which follows on the next page, has not been updated since last month. Note the names and QTH's for the visitors are shown in the statistics table.

TEX Roster

Call	Name	Location / Notes	Call	Name	Location / Notes
N5AF	Sam	Cleveland	WA5MUF	Bill	Watauga
N5BA	Brian	Houston	# N7NET	Scott	McKinney
W5CDX	Wads	Crowley LA	KB5NJD	John	Duncanville
W5CU	Sam	Edmond OK	WB5NKC	Arley	Oklahoma City OK
NV5D	Martin	Allen	# N5NVP	Jim	Scott LA
* W5DY	Rodney	Goliad	* N5PWG	Jay	Pasadena
N5EL	Floyd	Temple	K5RDW	RD	Vilonia AR
* W5ESE	Scott	Dripping Springs	K5RG	Ken	Houston
W5GKH	Charlie	West Columbia	W5ROK	Steve	Richardson (K6JT)
K5GM	Pete	Austin	W5SBE	Larry	Austin
W9GVW	Eric	San Antonio	KC5T	Bob	Houston
KA9IKK	Bill	Houston	W5TFB	Jack	College Station
KA8IXC	Skip	Victoria	# W5TMO	Mike	Austin
AA5J	Lee	Plano	W5TV	Tom	Nacogdoches
KJ9J	Newt	Pharr TX (winter)	* KD5TXD	Pat	Kingsville
K5JRN	Si	Denton	AI6U	Chris	Sacramento (CA)
K6JT	Steve	Plano	# W5UFK	Ken	College Station
KA5KLU	Doug	San Antonio	* K5UN	Lee	Leonard
W5KNN	Ed	Bulverde (was KS5V)	K5WQG	Eddy	Tomball
K5KV	Benny	Star	# KM5YQ	David	Irving
W6LFB	Jim	Denton	* AC5Z	Bert	Nacogdoches (Lufkin)
WA5MS	Marty	Highland Village	W5ZD	Pat	Kingsville (KD5TXD)

Not Capable of operating in 3600-3700 band; * Capable of 160 meter operation

Operating:

As always, be sure to tune up and down from net frequency 2 or 3 KHz to look for the NCS should there be QRM on 3552 at startup time. I normally move up a half KHz, and others seem to prefer moving down a half or so. For contest weekends, also check 3643.

Possible TEX frequency change (?)

I am considering moving the net frequency down to around 3543 or so (with 3643 on contest weekends). Both Lee, AA5J, and I have been plagued with QRM around 3552 due to some type of local (to us) interference. Sam, W5CU, also reported something similar at his QTH in the past. I have had it the past couple years, but this year it seems to want to hang around 3552 rather than stay up above 3555 as it has in the past. My "noise" is a 3 KHz wide, S9 "buzzing" sort of signal that wanders up and down in frequency from about 3548 to 3555. Quite often it wanders across 3552 after the net has started.



Lee's noise source is broader in frequency range but still covers 3552 (see picture). I had thought it was from neighbor's plasma TVs, but now that Lee is seeing it, I am beginning to think it might be either Verizon

FIOS modems or perhaps even the BPL that is used by TXU power to monitor meters. At any rate, it is very disruptive, with only the strongest signals copyable when it hits. Are there any other suggestions for an alternate net frequency down below 3545?

Rob, K6YR, the PAN manager, sent along the following regarding the use of the “BK” prosign. We don’t hear it much on TEX, but thought this was worth passing along. Just one note to add: BK should not be used as a “hail sign” when checking into the net. But if it is, the NCS has no choice but to acknowledge it by sending another BK.

One BK Does Not Deserve Another

by Rob Griffin, K6YR, Chairman PAS, and SM Santa Barbara

CW continues to be a viable and popular mode of operation within the Amateur Radio Service. But while popular, its effectiveness still depends upon sound operating practices.

Operator Skill in this regard should not be confused with merely the ability to send and receive a contest exchange at high speed. In decades past, much attention was paid to nurturing the full range of Proper CW Practices: publishing practical operating aids and advice, mentoring, recognition – and setting a good example.

Experienced operators have no excuse for sloppy or poor practices. New operators hear such stuff and, before long, another lousy practice becomes commonplace and accepted (what I call I P C, Improper Practice Creep). By the way of a notorious example, my favorite IPC is use of the prosign BK (for break), which does not deserve another!

If a transmission is short, the prosign BK can be sent as shorthand for “am turning it over to you to transmit”. For the responding station to then send BK to start transmission is not only unnecessary, but it obfuscates the meaning of the prosign and wastes time.

CW operators who are serious about wanting to preserve and promote the mode need to nurture proper operating practices and take more responsibility in fighting IPC.

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://mysite.verizon.net/ressvuir/Texas_Slow_Net.htm

Lee Mayfield AA5J (AA5J@Verizon.net)

TSN Net Manager

The telegraph key image is courtesy of FCIT

The daily average QNI for April was 5.21, about the same as last month (5.23).
 Daily QTC in March was 1.10, down from last month (1.33).

TSN Roster

Call	Name	City	State	Call	Name	City	State
N5AF	Sam	Cleveland	TX	N7NET	Scott	Allen	TX
W5AG	Arch	Lafayette	LA	AA0NI	Dan	Oklahoma City	OK
KD5CB	Mike	Hillsboro	TX	WB5NKC	Arley	Oklahoma City	OK
WX5CW	Chris	Shreveport	LA	WB5NKD	Pat	Oklahoma City	OK
W5DY	Rodney	Goliad (STM, STX)	TX	N5NVP	Jim	Scott	LA
N5EL	Floyd	Temple	TX	W8OLO	Bob	Marengo	OH
W6EOD	Steve	Baker	FL	K4OSO	Milt	Rockville	VA
W5ESE	Scott	Dripping Springs	TX	K9PUI	Rich	Indianapolis	IN
WD0ESF	Mike	Medicine Lodge	KS	N5PWG	Jay	Pasadena	TX
WB9FLU	Bill	Columbus	IN	K5RDW	RD	Vilonia	AR
AE5GT	Clint	Wimberley	TX	K5RST	Ross	Zapata	TX
KA8IXC	Dan	Victoria	TX	N0SSS	Adam	Oklunion	TX
AA5J	Lee	Plano (NM TSN)	TX	K15T	Wade	Walker	LA
W5JBV	Mike	Panama City	FL	KB5TCH	Carroll	Douglassville	TX
K5JE	Earl	Claremore	OK	W5TMO	Mike	Austin	TX
AA5JW	Carl	Stafford	TX	KD5TXD	Pat	Kingsville	TX
K6JT	Steve	Plano (NM TEX)	TX	AD5VC	Dana	Baton Rouge	LA
W5KCM	Randy	Watauga	TX	KD5VGJ	Jay	Flower Mound	TX
K5KV	Benny	Star	TX	KJ5XF	Tony	Austin	TX
WA5LOU	Lou	Kennard (NM TTN)	TX	N5XGG	Joe	Colmesneil	TX
KD5MMM	Phil	Fentress	TX	KM5YQ	David	Irving	TX
WA5MS	Marty	Highland Village	TX	AC5Z	Bert	Nacogdoches	TX

Welcome New TSN Stations

April

K5JE, Earl, Claremore, OK; KD5GM, Louis, Deer Park, TX; WB5GFU, Al, Alamo, TX

March

WD0ESF, Mike, Medicine Lodge, KS; W5TMO, Mike, Austin, TX; KD5CB, Mike, Hillsboro, TX

February

KA8IXC, Dan, Victoria, TX; K9PUI, Rich, Indianapolis, IN; WB9FLU, Bill, Columbus, IN
 N7NET, Scott, Allen, TX; W5JBV, Mike, Panama City, FL

Thank You

Thanks to all who have checked in to the Texas Slow Net. We look forward to your continued participation in our Texas CW nets. Bring your friends who want to learn CW traffic handling. Net Control Stations will slow down to your speed. And, by all means, bring a message to one of your friends and/or family members.

TSN Activity Report, April 2009

TOTAL SESSIONS 29*, TOTAL CHECKINS 151,
TOTAL TRAFFIC 32, BY 17 DIFFERENT OPS

*No net session 19 April due to Thunderstorms.

April QNI

QNI	Callsign	Name	QTH	QNI	Callsign	Name	QTH
29	WB5NKD	Pat	OK, Oklahoma City	2	KD5TXD, W5ZD	Pat	TX, Kingsville
29	WB5NKC	Arley	OK, Oklahoma City	1	N5XGG	Joe	TX, Colmesneil
18	W5ESE	Scott	TX, Dripping Springs	1	KD5VGJ	Jay	TX, Flower Mound
17	AE5GT	Clint	TX, Wimberley	1	N5NVP	Jim	LA, Scott
14	AA5JW	Carl	TX, Stafford	1	K5JE	Earl	OK, Claremore
14	AA5J	Lee	TX, Plano	1	K6JT, W0CXX	Steve	TX, Plano (IA, Cedar Rapids)
10	KD5MMM	Phil	TX, Fentress	1	KD5GM	Louis	TX, Deer Park
6	KB5TCH	Carroll	TX, Douglassville	1	WB5GFU	Al	TX, Alamo
5	W5AG	Arch	LA, Lafayette				

73,
Lee, AA5J