

The Texan

Newsletter of the Texas NTS CW Net (TEX)

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

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November-December 2017



General Conditions

Since the time change back to standard in early November, we have often experienced long skip conditions on early TEX. From what I have seen about other nets, particularly in the smaller sections of the East Coast, we have a lot of company. Since Texas is so large, as long as we have stations in both north and south, we can get the necessary relays without the need to go to 160 meters, as many of the Eastern nets have been forced to do.

Late TEX seems to be much more stable, unlike previous years, with acceptable propagation to both north and south.

Propagation in general has been quite poor, however. The daytime nets are experiencing a lot of problems, particularly on 20 meters, but also on 40.

New QNI Newsletter

James Wades, WB8SIW, is a prolific writer. Again, a new QNI Newsletter is available on <http://www.qni-newsletter.net/> . Some very interesting articles including, among others:

1. Grand Old Party; Grand Old Morse
2. Case for Common Denominators
3. The App Mentality
4. VHF SSB for EMCOMM
5. Old Fashioned Paper and Pencil
6. Training Column: It's Your System
7. Shakeout Section Emergency Test
8. A Call for Unity
9. The First Police Radio System
10. QRP for EMCOMM?
11. Training Manual Released
12. Please Register Your Net

That last item brings up the question of whether or not we should register TEX as a formally affiliated net in Radio Relay International. I'd like to hear from you net members as to your preference. My preference is to register.

The Old Man and the Paper Boy, Part 2

Copyright 2009 by Scott B. Laughlin/n7net

The following series was submitted by Scott, N7NET, who has checked into TEX from time to time. Scott is a QRP enthusiast. I know you will enjoy reading his story. Thank you, Scott...

The day the paperboy was to visit Jack's radio room came too quickly. After retrieving the morning paper, he sank into his recliner. As a rule, he first digested the editorial page, and then he scanned the entire newspaper front to back. This morning, however, Millie's remark about how much time had passed since he'd last been on the air was still nagging him. How long it had been? Why was she keeping track?

"Jim will be here this afternoon," Millie called from the kitchen.

"You mean the paperboy?"

"Jack. You've got to start using his name."

Jack grunted and dropped the paper in his lap. Pushing his recliner back, he closed his eyes and tried to recall his last visit to the radio room. Propagation was probably in the ditch that day. It had been for months. As if that wasn't enough, a faulty transformer was creating havoc with the signals, driving the noise floor through the roof. He'd made two formal complaints to the utility company, but to no avail. Perhaps, during his hiatus the problem had been located and corrected.

Jack gazed up the narrow stairway to the radio room door. His shack had once been a portion of the attic. Today, however, he would be sharing his asylum with the paperboy.

Millie's ability for getting her way was phenomenal. And he thought about the sign hanging in a tobacco shop on Van Ness Avenue that read: HISTORIC LOCATION: A MAN WON AN ARGUMENT WITH HIS WIFE ON THIS SPOT ON FEBURARY 3, 1932.

Sighing, Jack remembered that the room needed a going over. Laying the newspaper aside, he pushed himself from his recliner and headed up the stairs. After reaching the landing he pushed the door open and reached inside to flip the light switch. That's when he caught a whiff of Millie's furniture polish. "So this is how she keeps tabs on my radio habits," he muttered. He admired the scores of QSL cards and certificates he'd collected. Directly behind his desk hung a world map on which scores of colored hatpins marked significant locations he'd worked at one time or another—Pitcairn Island, Azores, a North Pole expedition, and a dozen small islands off Japan. A lone pin marked Marion Island, an icy chunk of real estate hugging the Antarctic Continent.

The leather protested as he settled into his high-backed chair and swung it into position at the desk. His radios were large and occupied much of the desk area. He'd purchased them prior to World War II, months before communications equipment became rationed items. To his right a J-38 was anchored on a heavy brass plate. On a separate table stood an ancient Underwood mill he used for copying high-speed CW traffic. At the back of the desk, in custom-built shelves, were four telegraph keys that had seen extraordinary service. Had they been capable of telling their stories, each might have startled the world with events of which they'd taken part—the sinking of the Titanic, World War I, the Scopes trial, the 1929 Crash,

World War II, sinking of the Bismarck, and the Korean Conflict, not to mention the daily livestock and grain reports, Wall Street, and hundreds, if not thousands of baseball games transmitted to remote studios in Morse code.

After checking the cables and wires, Jack switched on the power and watched the tubes come to life. Their orange glow gave him comfort and he didn't object to the scent of hot dust. While the radios stabilized he recalled his stint in the Army. Drafted at forty-six, he was too old for combat, but as an electrical engineer and amateur radio operator he was a skilled Morse instructor.

The code school where he taught operated around the clock. Students assigned to night classes often fought sleep. Most of the code drills were prerecorded on 78-RPM records, so he was free to leave his desk and physically shake students awake. However, he soon found an easier way. He could isolate any position he chose and plug his Vibroplex into that circuit. Then he would begin sending the Morse characters that resembled the rhythm of The Old Gray Mare—PE 777 PE7 JA. He couldn't recall ever finishing the first line before the snoozing person was jolted awake and back on the mill copying code.

The sound of the doorbell brought him back to the present. Then he heard Millie's footsteps in the kitchen.

"Remember, you've got to stop calling him the paperboy. His name is Jim." Millie said as she passed the foot of the stairway.

Moments later Jim appeared in the doorway, his eyes bright, his mouth gaping as he took in the radio room

"Wow!" he finally said.

"You still want to become a ham radio operator?" Jack asked.

Before he could answer his mother was at his side. She was a tall, attractive redhead and he saw the boy's clear blue eyes and high cheekbones in her face.

"I'm concerned about what Jim's getting into here, the electricity and all," she said, before introducing herself.

"As you should be," said Jack, swinging his chair around to face her, "but let me assure you there's nothing in this room that's any more dangerous than turning on a table lamp.

Everything is properly grounded. However, I shall watch over this boy as though he were my own flesh and blood, Mrs. ah—"

"Mrs. Cornwell," she said, and for the first time she seemed to notice her surroundings. "This must be how a War Room looks."

"Well, I don't know about that, but there's been times that I've battled the elements—propagation, noise, and lightning," he said, rising from his chair and motioning Jim to take his place.

"I want you to watch this young man do the most dangerous thing he'll do while he's here."

Reaching past Jim, Jack rotated the receiver dial until he tuned to a familiar voice. Then he adjusted the transmitter frequency, keyed the microphone, and transmitted his call.

"There you are, Jack. We were just talking about you...OVER."

"It was all words of praise, I'm sure. HI HI," he said, laughing. "George, I have some third-party traffic, a young man here in my shack wants to become a ham. His name is Jim and he wants to have a word with you. Standby."

Turning to Jim, he said, "When I push this button I'll be keying the microphone. That's when you say 'Hello. My name is Jim. Over. Got that?'"

"Got it."

Jim followed the instructions and he smiled at Jack, and then at his mother after he heard George say his name over the radio.

His mother seemed satisfied and followed Millie down the stairway.

"You have to learn Morse code," Jack said, after signing off on the radio.

"I already know code."

"Oh? "

"Yes sir. I learned it from the Secret Code Club. See?" explained Jim, holding his right hand up so Jack could see his ring.

Jack adjusted his glasses and squinted at the ring and watched with interest as Jim opened the top exposing a tiny magnifying glass.

"Where'd you get that?"

"I sent in twenty-five cents and a cereal box top to Battle Creek, Michigan for it."

"And you learned the code from that?"

"Most of it. Some of it."

Jack was stunned. It sounded like hogwash to him, but he tried not to show it. He'd witnessed some pretty wild notions in years past, but this one, in his opinion, took top honors. His first impulse was to terminate the ham radio scheme, but that would never be an option as long as Millie was still breathing. If he tried to back out now she'd hound him to his grave. He was boxed.

To be continued...

Scott also sent along the following for the newsletter. Thanks again!

Macaronic

My tablet supports a dictionary app that publishes a word and definition each day. I'm subscribed to this feature in an effort to enlarge my vocabulary. Most words it offers are beyond what might be useful in my daily life, so I scroll on by. This morning, however, came the word: MACARONIC. This describes at least two instances where I could have used it.

Spanglish is one. During a three-year tour in the West Indies I experienced a language collision, a conflict between English and Spanish. It was most apparent with the children who enjoyed both languages, interchanging at will and with ease.

Box-car-ing is the second one, which involves the use of Morse code - American and International.

Thirty years ago, while earning my amateur radio license I was required to demonstrate my knowledge and use of international Morse code. In doing so I rubbed shoulders with retired railroad and Western Union communications operators. Many of these folks had sent and received information of great importance - sinking of the Titanic, World War I, the stock market crash of 1929, The Great Depression, World War II, and many other events of great importance. The telegraph wires sang with train orders, personal telegrams, news, stock market reports. The list could go on.

During my early hamming days when code was the only mode I was allowed to use, I spent time with these "old salts", folks who even thought and dreamed in code. One of the places where macaronic occurred was on the West Coast Slow Speed Net, which met daily on 3.702 MHz at 0200 hours Zulu.

These folks were quick with their Vibroplex and straight keys. Hardly a night passed without one train dispatcher passing traffic to another. When conditions were difficult and the receiving station sometimes asked for fills. The sender, in his excitement, sometimes mixed American Morse with International leaving us newcomers scratching our heads.

They called that box-car-ing. The dictionary calls it macaronic.

TEX Mailbox:

Doug, NA5YO, wrote the following on October 27 after reading the last newsletter:

Was surprised I took up so much of the newsletter. Harvey was definitely an experience. You have my location incorrect. I am not north of Corpus Christi. Rodney is probably closer to Corpus than I am. I am approximately 70 miles east of Rockport. Corpus is 110 miles west of my location. Houston is about 110 miles Northeast of me.

I am located just off of CR477. You take 35, the coastal 35, not the IH35 that runs to San Antonio. This 35 runs along the coast. If you take 35 east out of Port Lavaca I am 26 miles to my QTH. Victoria is 52 miles from my QTH Northwest direction. Bay City is 40 miles east down 35 from my location. That 35 runs as far as Galveston which is a long way from me.

We were blessed by the good Lord. Carancahua Bay is a back bay of Matagorda Bay, which is a very big bay. I am in the sticks - there are farms and ranches all around me. The bay is 3 miles from me so I am not right on the water. Carancahua Bay is a horseshoe shaped bay. It is pronounced KARANKAWA like the Indian tribe. We were never threatened by water. The wind was our main problem and we got plenty of it. They clocked the wind in Port Lavaca at about 100 mph. Don't think we got that much here, more like 80, which is enough. I only had 4 1/2 inches of rain, which could have been deceiving since it more than likely came down sideways. My G5RV was not damaged but my TV mast was bent over in the middle. I replaced that middle section and fixed the problem. It seemed the worse of it was west from Victoria and East from Bay City. We were spared in Port Lavaca and Palacios from very much damage. All the piers were pretty much wiped out. They still haven't repaired most of them. Water covered a big part of 35 and there was much debris that had to be bulldozed off before travel could resume. Water never went over the causeway - it is very high off the water so it was just a matter of cleaning the debris off the roads before they opened it up. Things are back to normal down here. We were only without power for about a day and a half after we got back. My generator was not damaged so we had electricity. They never did turn the water off so no problem there. Took about a week before the guy come out and fixed my internet dish so I could get back on the web. My neighbors shed blew apart and much of it ended up against my internet dish. Coming back through Victoria there was extensive wind damage there. Street lights laying in the road and high power lines down everywhere. Debris from rooftops and trees made driving through the streets an adventure. We managed to

make many detours to get back on 87 to Port Lavaca. Took close to an hour just to get through Victoria. Looked like a war zone. Been back since and everything is back to normal although you still see damaged buildings etc...

In order for me to use my amp I have to start the generator. In bad weather that means I'll be in the rain and cold to start it up. My G5RV is only up at 30 feet; tried to go 40 but the mast was too flimsy with TV mast. Only one other ham down here close - that's Jerry about 3 miles from here on the bay. KF5DDV - he likes SSB and digital PSK31 doesn't do cw. So no help putting it up. I used the deer guard on my truck to hold the mast while I tied off the guy wires.

Lucy's knees have gotten to the point where she can only stand for a short period and walk only a few feet at a time. I built a ramp for her to ride her power chair to the door. I take care of most everything since she can't stand or walk. The commitment to be on at a certain time everyday is the problem plus I don't have the antenna system I had back in SA. I hardly get time to get on the radio much. I manage to do a contest once in a while and DX sparingly. But we both love it down here. It is a country setting with no traffic jams, no loud music, no drive by shootings, and no sirens. Only birds and wind is all we hear. My closest neighbor is behind me about 30 yards. No one is beside me on either side for at least 100 yards. Piranha Drive is a dirt road and Tarpon Road to CR477 is caliche and 477 on is paved road. I have bobwhite quail everywhere and cottontail rabbits. I had 7 ducks land in my yard last winter. They pecked around for a bit then flew off. Geese flew over very high yesterday and saw a flock of ducks toward the bay. I'm guessing winter is coming early this year.

Sorry to hear about Rodney's antenna damage. He probably had more wind than us since he was closer to the eye. I'm hoping we don't have a repeat anytime soon. Me and mama were blessed by the Lord to still have a trailer to come home too.

God Bless
73, Doug//NA5YO

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Received the following from a fellow Rockwell Collins radio club member. Thought it was interesting enough to share with you all.

In a 1914 paper entitled "Operating Features of the Audion" Armstrong published the 1st correct explanation for how the triode worked and provided experimental evidence to support his claim.

Interesting read.

Electrical World, December 12, 1914, pages 1149-1152:

See:
<http://earlyradiohistory.us/1914opr.htm>

73, Bob K3NT

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Nov 15: I was contacted last night by **Benny, K5KV**, who some of you may recall was the TCC director for Central a few years ago and was active on TEX. He resigned from all traffic handling due to his extreme distaste for all book traffic.

He had an idea for RRI to become an information resource by sending short radiograms containing announcements of various events, such as CW events using a bug, etc. His idea is to send these to the net managers in RRI or section nets for a QNC type announcement on their nets. It would seem to help fill in traffic while not having to deal with phone number problems or email addresses since the NM information is known.

This has been presented to the RRI Board, and was favorably received, but to date nobody has volunteered to begin the effort. If any of you reading this are interested, you can find information about net managers in RRI on <http://www.k6jt.com/RRI/> . Look them up on QRZ.com, and send a radiogram with (short) information about a QNC that would be of interest to them.

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Received the following and the picture from **Scott, N7NET**. He wrote: About 1992 I began publishing QNC, the CW Journal. It lasted nearly a decade, but was poorly financed and it now lives on Yahoo Groups and I changed the name to QNCW. KA0TPZ in Minneapolis did a boatload of art. If you choose to use this please give him credit. You'll notice he is wearing a QNC cap!

The journal was published using a Commodore 64 and a television monitor. Printing was done at Kinko's. It eventually earned readers in the US, Canada, Australia, Germany, UK, the Republic of South Africa, and Norway.

A friend who operated a packet PBBS suggested we send issues out using packet. So I rewrote the current issue in 3k segments and sent them to him. Sorry to say, I was probably one of the culprits who led to the demise of packet as we knew it. :(I was younger and considered myself smarter in those days. :-/

A Merry Christmas to all.

73 de Scott, N7NET <http://n7net.me> <http://qncw.me>

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Nov 24: From **Jim, K9JM**, the RN6 manager and Western Area Coordinator. Many of you who operated in TCC may have worked Bill. Sorry to hear of his passing. Jim Wrote: I was informed by Kate K6HTN that Bill K6IFF became a silent key on Thanksgiving. Bill was a FB op, net manager of RN6, TCC, mentor to Kate... a very active traffic handler. He will be greatly missed. I checked my records, the last time he QNled to RN6 was Thanksgiving 2016.

--Jim K9JM

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Nov 28: From **Steve, N0SM**. Many of you who operated on CAN will recall Jim, N0JL. Sorry to say that we have lost another good op. Steve wrote:

I received a call from Morgan Lasley, son of Jim Lasley, N0JL, that Jim passed away this morning. He recently went to the local hospital with pneumonia then was transferred to the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics where he died.

Jim loved CW of all kinds. He had a heck of a collection of straight keys and bugs, had been an SKCC member, ARRL Life Member, served as Iowa Section Manager for many years, had assembled all the contacts and confirmations for DXCC though he never submitted the paperwork, served as manager of the Central Area (traffic) Net for several years, and thoroughly enjoyed Field Day exercises for nearly all of his days as a ham.

No word on services at this time. His wife Shari is NOLDD so cards may be sent to her via the QRZ.com address.

Steve Miller, N0SM

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TEX Net Topics

The TEX Duty Schedule and Roster are shown on the following pages. Eric, NM5M, of Plano was added to the Roster. We definitely need more help from those of you willing to accept a regular spot. Thanks to all who are helping out and also the backup stations for those slots that are open or with the regular station unavailable. We have a lot of Open slots now, so please consider taking one or more of them. We particularly need more NCS stations (7), but RN5 liaisons (4) are also lacking.

CAN and WAN and both RN5 sessions have moved to 80 meters. They will stay there for the remainder of the winter and early spring.

TEX CW Net Weekly Schedule

| Local | Mondav | Tuesdav | Wednesdav | Thursdav | Fridav | Saturdav | Sundav |
|---------------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|--------|
| NCS #1 | W5DY | N5RL | Open | Open | N5RL | W5FEA | Open |
| Backup | W5FEA | W5FEA | W5DY | W5DY | W5FEA | W5DY | W5FEA |
| NCS #2 | W5DY | K6JT | Open | Open | Open | W5DY | Open |
| Backup | K6JT | W5DY | K6JT | K6JT | K6JT | W5FEA | K6JT |
| RN5 #1 | W5CU | Open | K5GM | N5RL | N5RL | Open | W5CU |
| Backup | W5DY | N5RL | W5DY | W5DY | W5FEA | W5FEA | W5FEA |
| RN5 #2 | W5CU | Open | K5RG | K6JT | K6JT | Open | W5CU |
| Backup | W5FEA | K6JT | W5DY | W5DY | W5DY | W5DY | K6JT |

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

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

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

RN5 Backup: W5CU, W5DY, W5FEA, K5GM, K6JT, K5RG, N5RL

NCS Backup: W5CU, W5DY, W5FEA, K5GM, K6JT, K5RG, N5RL

TEX Roster

| Call | Name | Location / Notes | Call | Name | Location / Notes |
|---------|---------|------------------|----------|-------|----------------------|
| N5AF | Sam | Cleveland | * N7NET | Scott | McKinney |
| KW5AS | Skip | Victoria | * KB5NJD | John | Duncanville |
| N5BA | Brian | Houston | N5NVP | Jim | Scott LA |
| WA5CAV | Dick | Pineville LA | K1PKZ | Paul | Tom Bean |
| W5CU | Sam | Edmond OK | WA5PRI | Don | Thibodaux LA |
| W5DAE | Don | San Angelo | W5QLD | Ron | Corpus Christi |
| W4DLZ | Frank | Florida | K5QOW | Gary | Reagan Wells |
| * W5DY | Rodney | Goliad | * K5RG | Ken | Houston |
| * W5ESE | Scott | Dripping Springs | N5RL | Randy | San Antonio |
| * W5FEA | Jim | Graham | W5ROK | Steve | Richardson (K6JT op) |
| W5GKH | Charlie | West Columbia | KD5RQB | Jason | Atlanta |
| K5GM | Pete | Austin | W5TMO | Mike | Austin |
| W9GVW | Eric | San Antonio | K5TSK | Jim | Pearcy AR |
| K5JRN | Si | Austin | KD5TXD | Pat | Kingsville |
| * K6JT | Steve | Plano | NE5V | Chris | Liberty Hill |
| * W6LFB | Jim | Denton | WB8WKQ | Jeff | Michigan |
| WA5MS | Marty | Argyle | K6YBV | Bob | Placerville CA |
| NM5M | Eric | Plano | W5ZD | Pat | Kingsville (KD5TXD) |

* Capable of 160 meter operation

Statistics:

October 2017:

Jim, W5FEA, with 62 out of 62 (100%) continued his run on perfect attendance. Rodney, W5DY, with 52 (84%) was 2nd. Don, W5DAE, with 44 was 3rd with 44 (71%). Thanks again to all of you who checked in for your support.

There were only 2 visitors who are not on the regular roster – JW, WB8SIW, who you will recognize as the editor of the QNI Newsletter, was mobile in Houston helping family recover from the hurricane, and Larry, KC0M, in Missouri.

The complete list of stations and traffic / liaison totals are shown in the following table. Traffic averaged 1.8 per net session (1.6 last month). Net time averaged 9.7 minutes per session (compared to 9.8 last month). Check-ins averaged 5.2 per session (4.7 last month).

TEX Net Statistics (October 2017)

| Call | Name | QNI | Total | NCS | RN5 | TTN | DFW | TSN |
|--------|------|-----|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| WA5CAV | Dick | 0 | 1 | | | | | |
| | LA | 1 | | | | | | |
| W5CU | Sam | 7 | 15 | | 7 | | | |
| * | | 8 | | | 8 | | | |
| W5DAE | Don | 27 | 44 | | | | | |

| Call | Name | QNI | Total | NCS | RN5 | TTN | DFW | TSN |
|--------|---------|-----|-------|-----------|------|-----|-----|-----|
| | | 17 | | | | | | |
| W5DY | Rodney | 23 | 52 | 13 | 2 | | | |
| | | 29 | | 11 | 3 | | | |
| W5FEA | Jim | 31 | 62 | 12 | 5 | 24 | | |
| * | | 31 | | | 1 | 31 | | |
| W5GKH | Charlie | 1 | 1 | | | | | |
| * | | 0 | | | | | | |
| K5GM | Pete | 23 | 42 | | 8 | | | |
| * | | 19 | | | 3 | | | |
| W9GVW | Eric | 3 | 3 | | | | | |
| * | | 0 | | | | | | |
| K6JT | Steve | 10 | 34 | | | | 9 | |
| * | | 24 | | 20 | 12 | | 24 | |
| W6LFB | Jim | 1 | 1 | | | | | |
| * | | 0 | | | | | | |
| KC0M | Larry | 1 | 1 | | | | | |
| * | MO | 0 | | | | | | |
| KB5NJD | John | 5 | 5 | | | | 5 | |
| | | 0 | | | | | | |
| NM5M | Eric | 0 | 3 | | | | | |
| | Plano | 3 | | | | | | |
| K5QOW | Gary | 4 | 4 | | | 3 | | |
| * | | 0 | | | | | | |
| K5RG | Ken | 0 | 6 | | | | | |
| * | | 6 | | | 4 | | | |
| N5RL | Randy | 22 | 38 | 6 | 9 | 3 | | |
| * | | 16 | | | | | | |
| WB8SIW | JW | 1 | 1 | | | | | |
| | IL | 0 | | | | | | |
| K5TSK | Jim | 7 | 7 | | | | | |
| | AR | 0 | | | | | | |
| Totals | | 320 | | 62 | 62 | 61 | 38 | 0 |
| | | | | 100% | 100% | 98% | 61% | 0% |
| QTC 1 | | 38 | 110 | | | | | |
| QTC 2 | | 72 | | Sessions: | | 62 | | |
| Time 1 | | 317 | 604 | | | | | |
| Time 2 | | 287 | | | | | | |

November 2017:

Jim, W5FEA, with 60 out of 60 (100%) continued his “perfect attendance”. Rodney, W5DY, was trying very hard to also make that 60 but missed it by only 1 with 59 (98%) for 2nd. Pete, K5GM, with 44 (73%) was third. Thanks again to all of you who checked in for your support.

Visitors included Greg, K5EDM, from AR, Benny, K5KV from Star, and Larry, KC0M, from MO.

The complete list of stations and traffic / liaison totals are shown in the following table. Traffic averaged 2.5 per net session (1.8 last month). Net time averaged 10.6 minutes per session (compared to 9.7 last month). Check-ins averaged 5.1 per session (5.2 last month).

TEX Net Statistics (November 2017)

| Call | | QNI | Total | NCS | RN5 | TTN | DFW | TSN |
|--------|---------|-----|-------|-----------|------|-----|-----|-----|
| W5CU | Sam | 8 | 17 | | 7 | | | |
| * | | 9 | | | 8 | | | |
| W5DAE | Don | 17 | 33 | | | | | |
| | | 16 | | | | | | 7 |
| W5DY | Rodney | 30 | 59 | 13 | 4 | | | |
| | | 29 | | 11 | 4 | | | |
| K5EDM | Greg | 1 | 1 | | | | | |
| | AR | 0 | | | | | | |
| W5FEA | Jim | 30 | 60 | 8 | 1 | 29 | | |
| * | | 30 | | 3 | 3 | 29 | | |
| W5GKH | Charlie | 8 | 12 | | | | | |
| * | | 4 | | | | | | |
| K5GM | Pete | 25 | 44 | | 8 | | | |
| * | | 19 | | | 1 | | | |
| W9GVW | Eric | 2 | 2 | | | | | |
| * | | 0 | | | | | | |
| K6JT | Steve | 8 | 27 | | | | 8 | |
| * | | 19 | | 16 | 8 | | 19 | |
| K5KV | Benny | 0 | 1 | | | | | |
| | | 1 | | | | | | |
| KC0M | Larry | 1 | 1 | | | | | |
| * | MO | 0 | | | | | | |
| NM5M | Eric | 0 | 1 | | | | | |
| | Plano | 1 | | | | | | |
| K5RG | Ken | 1 | 7 | | | | | |
| * | | 6 | | | 5 | | | |
| N5RL | Randy | 22 | 37 | 9 | 10 | 1 | | |
| * | | 15 | | | 1 | | | |
| K5TSK | Jim | 6 | 6 | | | | | |
| * | | 308 | | 60 | 60 | 59 | 27 | 7 |
| Totals | | | | 100% | 100% | 98% | 45% | 12% |
| QTC 1 | | 53 | 151 | | | | | |
| QTC 2 | | 98 | | Sessions: | | 60 | | |
| Time 1 | | 318 | 635 | | | | | |
| Time 2 | | 317 | | | | | | |

Operating:

A new RRI Training Manual, TR-001, is available on the <http://www.radio-relay.org/> website. See the information and link on the main page. This is a draft document so comments are welcome and solicited.

Here are the composite reports for the last 2 months for traffic handled at the region and above levels. Some reports were only partially complete due to illness or resignation of the respective managers, as indicated in the notes.

Central US Nets Activity for October 2017

| Net | Sessions | QTC | QNI | QTR | Rate |
|---|----------|------|----------|------|-------|
| Day 5th Call Area \$ | 13 | 25 | 75 | 118 | 0.212 |
| Cycle 2 9RN* | 13 | 432 | 71 | 108 | 4.000 |
| Day 10th Call Area # | 10 | 33 | 45 | 73 | 0.452 |
| Night 5th Call Area | 62 | 68 | 217 | 515 | 0.132 |
| Night 9th Call Area | 53 | 158 | 141 | 399 | 0.396 |
| Cycle 4 TEN* | 62 | 196 | 256 | 586 | 0.334 |
| Day Central US | 13 | 207 | 96 | 300 | 0.690 |
| Night Central US@ | 30 | 209 | 201 | 496 | 0.421 |
| Day Inter-Area Traffic | 52 | 144 | 52 | | 100% |
| Night Inter-Area Traffic | 85 | 97 | 74 | | 87% |
| Total Voice/CW Nets | | 1569 | 1228 | 2595 | |
| DTN Digital | | | Received | Sent | |
| KM0R Central/10th HUB | | 1402 | 713 | 689 | |
| KK5QT 5th Call Area HUB | | 401 | 177 | 224 | |
| WB9FHP 9 th Call HUB | | 4554 | 2430 | 2124 | |
| Digital Stations (10) | | 965 | 553 | 412 | |
| Total DTN Digital | | 7322 | 3873 | 3449 | |
| Total Central US | | 8891 | | | |
| * Not Radio Relay International affiliated | | | | | |
| # Manager in therapy - thanks Dave, ND0CW, and Bob, W0LAW for their reports | | | | | |
| @ Manager resigned, nominations open. Composite from NCS reports received | | | | | |

| Net | Sessions | QTC | QNI | QTR | Rate |
|--|----------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| \$ Manager had stroke, in rehab, totals from KC5OZT report | | | | | |

Central US Nets Activity for November 2017

| Net | Sessions | QTC | QNI | QTR | Rate |
|---|----------|------|----------|------|-------|
| Day 5th Call Area \$ | 12 | 29 | 66 | 121 | 0.240 |
| Cycle 2 9RN* No Report | | | | 1 | 0.000 |
| Day 10th Call Area # | 12 | 55 | 51 | 107 | 0.514 |
| Night 5th Call Area | 60 | 63 | 211 | 373 | 0.169 |
| Night 9th Call Area | 55 | 150 | 144 | 384 | 0.391 |
| Cycle 4 TEN* No Report | | | | 1 | 0.000 |
| Day Central US | 13 | 157 | 112 | 252 | 0.623 |
| Night Central US@ | 29 | 237 | 191 | 518 | 0.458 |
| Day Inter-Area Traffic | 52 | 107 | 50 | | 96% |
| Night Inter-Area Traffic | 77 | 73 | 69 | | 90% |
| Total Voice/CW Nets | | 871 | 894 | 1757 | |
| DTN Digital | | | Received | Sent | |
| KM0R Central/10th HUB | | 823 | 392 | 431 | |
| KK5QT 5th Call Area HUB No Report | | 0 | | | |
| WB9FHP 9th Call HUB | | 5068 | 2746 | 2322 | |
| Digital Stations (9) | | 1547 | 779 | 768 | |
| Total DTN Digital | | 7438 | 3917 | 3521 | |
| Total Central US | | 8309 | | | |
| * Not Radio Relay International affiliated | | | | | |
| # Manager recovering - thanks Dave, ND0CW, and Bob, W0LAW for their reports | | | | | |
| @ Manager resigned, nominations open. Composite from NCS reports received | | | | | |
| \$ Manager had stroke, in rehab, totals from KC5OZT reports | | | | | |

Until February, wishing you all a Merry Christmas and all the best in the New Year. Let's hope for better propagation !!!

73, Steve K6JT

TSN Corner

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

Website: <http://www.k6jt.com/tsn/>

Net Manager: Jason KD5RQB, fallishere2@hotmail.com



Photo Courtesy of VE3UU

Greetings From Northeast Texas

TSN is still limping along. The loss of Howard WD5IDB continues to hurt. There is still an opening for a Wednesday night NCS. If you are interested in filling the position please get in touch with me.

TSN Activity Reports

| Month | QNI | QTC | Nr. Operators |
|----------------------|-----|-----|---------------|
| October no report | | | |
| November 10 Sessions | 18 | 10 | 2 |

Net Control Stations

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|-------------------|-----------|-------------------|---------------|----------|
| No Net | No Net | Carroll KB5TCH | (Open) | Carroll KB5TCH | Sam KK4HCF | No Net |

October 2017 QNS

| Name | Callsign | QNI |
|--------------------|----------|-----|
| No Report received | | |

November 2017 QNS

| Name | Callsign | QNI |
|---------|----------|-----|
| CARROLL | KB5TCH | 10 |
| DON | W5DAE | 7 |

TSN Roster (January 2016 to January 2018)

| Callsign | Name | QTH |
|----------|--------|-------------------------|
| AC5BE | Joe | MATAGORDA, TEXAS |
| KX5C | Ron | SILSBEE, TEXAS |
| W5CBP | Chris | ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO |
| W5DAE | Don | SAN ANGELO, TEXAS |
| W5DY | Rodney | GOLIAD, TEXAS |
| WD0ESF | Mike | MEDICINE LODGE, KANSAS |

| Callsign | Name | QTH |
|----------|---------|-----------------------|
| W5FEA | Jim | GRAHAM, TEXAS |
| W9GVW | Eric | SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS |
| KK4HCF | Sam | MARYSVILLE, TENNESSEE |
| KB5KWO | Steve | NORMAN, OKLAHOMA |
| KC0M | Larry | BRANSON, MISSOURI |
| N5NVP | Jim | SCOTT, LOUISIANA |
| K8PKN | David | ORWELL, OHIO |
| N5RL | Randy | SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS |
| KD5RQB | Jason | ATLANTA, TEXAS |
| KB5TCH | Carroll | DOUGLASSVILLE, TEXAS |

Stop by any evening Tuesday through Friday on 3570kHz at 7:45p.m. CT.

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!!

73,
Jason KD5RQB

RN5 Corner

RRI Fifth Call Area Net (Daily) 1930 CT and 2130 CT on **3567**
Alternate Frequency 7108 or 3598 when conditions warrant
Serving TX, OK, LA, AR, MS, TN, AL, and NFL
Frank Thrash W4DLZ (W4DLZ@WINLINK.ORG)
Net Manager

Hello guys and welcome to Edition 57 of the **RN5 Corner**.

RN5 continues to barely function. Frank, W4DLZ, is back on the air again, but his participation is still limited. Still getting things set up in his new location.

Please send your NCS reports to Jerry, W4SU, who continues as unofficial assistant manager for RN5, collecting the net reports and producing the monthly composite. Thank you very much once again, Jerry. He finally was able to get the "store bought" antenna to work, so he is back on the air on 80 meters and both sessions of the net now meet on 3567. Note that with his abbreviated schedule, he comes to RN5 only 3 or 4 nights per week but will still accept any AL traffic.

Sam, W5CU, is operating from OK, making use of 80 for both early and late.

Jack, K5WNU, appears to still be off the air. Have not heard from him since September.

Dick, WA5CAV, continues to check into RN5 for LA, even without an operating CW net there to help offload traffic. Thank you, Dick, for your continued support of RN5. Speaking of LA, does anyone know the status of Jim, N5NVP? Have not heard anything from him in several months now.

John, KC4FL, has been regularly checking into RN5 from FL. Keep that in mind when you get some FL traffic. NFL has been part of RN5 for quite a while and we can pass traffic for the state to John in lieu of routing it through the Eastern Area and Region Net 4 for the small amount that trickles in these days. Signals on 80 are not as good as they were on 40, but still usable.

We still need NCS and Liaison stations as you can see from the duty roster. Thanks to those of you (primarily Jerry) for filling in the open slots or those due to absences. We are hoping to hear Tom, WA4ZPZ, back on again more often during the dark winter days, but so far he has not been very active. Conditions continue to be rather poor, and traffic is only coming in as a trickle from CAN. Thanks to all of you for your support and hanging in there.

73, Steve, K6JT, for Frank W4DLZ

(Schedule, statistics, and roster on the next page)

RN5 Duty Roster

| Local | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|--------|
| NCS #1 | W5FEA | Open | W5CU | W4SU | W4SU | Open | Open |
| NCS #2 | W5FEA | K6JT | W5CU | K6JT | K6JT | Open | WA4ZPZ |
| CAN TX | Open | Open | Open | W4SU | W4SU | Open | W4SU |
| CAN RX | W5CU | Open | Open | K6JT | WA4ZPZ | Open | W5CU |
| DRN5 | Open | Open | K5RG | Open | Open | Open | Open |

2017 Statistics

| MONTH | OCTOBER | NOVEMBER |
|----------|---------|----------|
| SESSIONS | 62 | 60 |
| QTC | 68 | 63 |
| QNI | 217 | 211 |
| QTR | 515 | 373 |
| AVG QTC | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| AVG QNI | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| AVG QTR | 8.3 | 6.2 |

The following roster shows stations coming to RN5 in the past 3 years and their states.

Region Net 5 Roster

| Call | Name | State | Call | Name | State |
|--------|---------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| W4AGL | JIM | FL | K6JT | STEVE | TX |
| WA4BAM | JOHN | FL | N5NVP | JIM | LA |
| WA5CAV | DICK | LA | WA5PRI | DON | LA |
| W5CU | SAM | OK*/CO | KZ8Q | BEN | FL |
| W4DLZ | FRANK | FL | K5RG | KEN | TX |
| W5DY | RODNEY | TX | N5RL | RANDY | TX |
| NS7E | ART | TX | W4SQE | ANDY | TN |
| W5ESE | SCOTT | TX | W4SU | JERRY | AL |
| W5FEA | JIM | TX | K5TSK | JIM | AR |
| KC4FL | JOHN | FL | K4VIZ | TOM | AR** |
| W5GKH | CHARLIE | TX | K5WNU | JACK | MS |
| K5GM | PETE | TX | WA4ZPZ | TOM | AL |
| W8IM | DEAN | FL | | | |

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

** K4VIZ is only marginally active. Send AR to K5TSK or the TEX station for the 7290 net (do not use DRN5)

73, Frank W4DLZ