

# The Texan

Newsletter of the Texas NTS CW Net (TEX)

**\*\* No "TSN Corner" this month \*\***

Net Manager: Steve Phillips, K6JT, Plano TX

([k6jt@arrl.net](mailto:k6jt@arrl.net) , 214-208-8900 Cell)

TEX Web Site: [http://web.me.com/sr\\_phillips/Site/K6JT\\_TEX/](http://web.me.com/sr_phillips/Site/K6JT_TEX/)

Assistant Manager: Rodney Baker, W5DY, Goliad TX

([w5dy@arrl.net](mailto:w5dy@arrl.net) )

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## Short Newsletter This Month

In keeping with the every-other-month cycle started a couple months ago, this month's newsletter will be a shortened one with primarily statistics and a little net member feedback.

There will also not be a TSN Corner this month. As some of you may have noticed, Pat, KD5TXD, has not been on the air for about 3 weeks now. The big storm that went through her area around that time destroyed all her antennas and also the antenna supports. If that was not bad enough, it also took out her high speed Internet. See her status update in the TEX Mailbox section.

## Relocated TEX Website

Note that the TEX web site has had to be relocated due to changes that will soon be made by the service provider (Apple). Some of the links (to the movies) are still not working quite right, but that will be resolved soon.

## Daylight Time Ends November 7

Our clocks go back an hour at 2 AM November 7. As always, note that TEX will start at the same LOCAL time following the time change. That will be an hour later UTC. So instead of the current 0000/0300Z start times, we will begin at 0100/0400Z. The later start time may help early TEX propagation a bit, but be prepared for some "long skip" to come into play on late TEX. Hopefully not for another month or so, but it could happen right away. At least one night recently had definite long skip characteristics on late TEX.

Note also that both RN5, CAN, and PAN have changed back to 80 meters already as of this writing, although official notification for CAN has not yet been received.

## TEX Mailbox:

After last month's newsletter came out, I received a phone call from **Frank, W5DLZ**, the RN5 manager. He told me that I did not quite have it correct regarding handling of N1IQI and W1GMF traffic on RN5. Frank wanted me to be sure to let y'all know that the official policy of RN5 is that ALL traffic must be accepted. If there is no outlet, then send a service message back to the originator. Any station coming to RN5 is expected to adhere to this policy. If you

are unwilling to accept either incoming or outgoing 'IQL or 'GMF traffic, then you should not go to RN5.

Received some feedback from **Jay, N5PWG**, regarding canned traffic. Jay wrote: My thought on canned traffic is that I enjoy delivering the message to new hams, welcoming them into the hobby. I enjoy the occasional thanks that I get when I remind a ham that his ticket is about to expire and sometimes, I help him renew via the Internet rather than wasting about ten dollars with the renewal service in Dallas.

I have enjoyed many a land-line QSO, prompted by a canned message, in which I discovered a ham with similar interests. I have brought several new hams into the local ham club who did not know about the club. In fact, I can't tell you all the enjoyable moments that I have spent delivering these messages.

Well, of course, sometimes it can get tiresome, especially when you have to spend time on AnyWho looking up a correct telephone number or being disappointed to find that the number is really a Fax number. And, I still remember a couple of times when an old ham seemed rather put out that he was being called and announced that he had no intention of renewing.

So, I vote with you, Steve, I'll take the canned mail and try to deliver it and enjoy it, most of the time. Better canned traffic than QRU QNX 73. Jay

**Ken, K5RG**, forwarded a response he received from John, W3FAF, who had to resign as CAN manager last year due to health issues. For those of you who were acquainted with John, and would like to communicate with him, here is the info:

I received the following letter from John W3FAF that I thought you might find informative. His address is:

John Thomas, W3FAF  
Apt 560  
3250 State Road  
Sellersville, PA 18960-1699  
Tel 215-257-4219

73, Ken K5RG

*John's letter was scanned so I cannot insert the text here. Essentially he is recuperating from some seizures and is off the air at present. He and his wife moved back to PA to be near their two children. John hopes to get back on again, probably only 40 meters and higher bands due to antenna size restrictions. He would enjoy hearing from you if you have the time to drop him a note.*

**Pat, KD5TXD**, just got her Internet service working again. Here is her status update:

Hi all, looks like I am back up on the internet. Charles got something called Hot Zone. Ha!! We had the "no longer push up pole" laying across the driveway. Charles talked the Hot Zone guy into putting the Internet antenna thingie on the top of the pole with my 2 meter jpole antenna. Then he got the Hot Zone guy to help him put the "no longer push up pole" back up

and attach the guy wires. Hmm... wonder if the Hot Zone guy would be interested in putting up Charles' 50 foot crank up antenna tower??? I have great fear of when that bill arrives.

There is a strong possibility that I will have antennas up some time next week. Hope I haven't forgotten CW by the time the antennas get going. Everyone will have to QRS for me for a bit (not that you aren't already QRS'ing for me).

We still have to do some surgery on all of the antennas. The connectors are a mess and the coax needs to be checked. Wise-acre Charles told me to look at my 2 meter jpole when it was down and tell him what was wrong. Duh! The coax and connector were not connected. Gosh, no wonder the local 2 meter repeater sounded so sick. I was probably transmitting on the coax cable. Hi to all and 73!! Pat KD5TXD

### TEX Net Topics

We need help with the **12** open NCS/liaison slots, including **4** open *primary* NCS slots and **2** open *primary* RN5 slots (all shown in **red**). Tom, NK5Z, has been handling the early Tuesday RN5, so he is now listed as primary rather than secondary (thanks, Tom!). Pat is shown in Red on Wednesday, requiring that the backup take over until she can get antennas back up again, as previously mentioned.

Please consider taking one of the open primary slots, or even an open backup position. Tuesday and Thursday early TEX NCS are the most needed, since I generally have trouble getting home in time and Rodney often has meetings one or both of those days.

Thanks again to Sam, W5CU, Scott, W5ESE, Tom, NK5Z, and Rodney, W5DY, we managed to get through the month without missing any RN5 schedules.

CAN, early RN5, and PAN are now on 80 meters as primary for the winter season.

### TEX CW Net Weekly Schedule

Local	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<b>NCS #1</b>	W5GKH	<b>Open</b>	<b>KD5TXD</b>	<b>Open</b>	N5PWG	<b>Open</b>	W5GKH
Backup	<b>Open</b>	W5ESE	W5DY	W5DY	W5DY	W5DY	K6JT
<b>NCS #2</b>	W5GKH	<b>Open</b>	<b>KD5TXD</b>	K6JT	N5PWG	W5DY	W5GKH
Backup	K6JT	K6JT	K6JT	<b>Open</b>	K6JT	<b>Open</b>	K6JT
<b>RN5 #1</b>	W5GKH	NK5Z	W5CU	NK5Z	N5PWG	<b>Open</b>	W5CU
Backup	W5DY	<b>Open</b>	W5DY	<b>Open</b>	W5ESE	W5ESE	W5GKH
<b>RN5 #2</b>	W5GKH	NK5Z	W5CU	NK5Z	K6JT	<b>Open</b>	W5CU
Backup	W5DY	<b>Open</b>	W5DY	K6JT	N5PWG	W5DY	W5GKH

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

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

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

RN5 Backup: W5CU, W5DY, W5ESE, W5GKH, K5GM, K6JT, N5PWG, K5RG, NK5Z

NCS Backup: W5DY, W5ESE, K6JT, N5PWG, KD5TXD

**Statistics:**

Check-ins were down again since last month. Traffic continued to be very low, slightly less than last month.

Tom, NK5Z, with 45 (75%) claimed top QNI spot. That's really hard to beat! Sam W5CU, claimed 2<sup>nd</sup> with 29 (48%), and Rodney, W5DY, with 25 (42%) claimed 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thanks to all who checked in for your support.

We did not have any "visitors" during the month.

The complete list of stations and traffic / liaison totals are shown in the following table. Traffic averaged 2.2 per net session (2.3 last month). Net time averaged 10.4 minutes per session (compared to 12.9 last month). Check-ins averaged 4.4 per session (4.8 last month).

**TEX Net Statistics (September 2010)**

		QNI	total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW	CTTN	TSN
Call		QNI							
W5CU	Sam	13	29		10				
*		16			8				
W5DY	Rodney	14	25	7	1				
		11		3	3				
N5EL	Floyd	14	14						
*		0							
W5ESE	Scott	13	14	1					1
*		1							
W5GKH	Charlie	8	16	8	4				
*		8		7	4				
K5GM	Pete	0	1						
*		1							
W9GVW	Eric	2	4						
*		2							
K6JT	Steve	21	51	9	2		21		
*		30		14	6		30		
KA5KLU	Doug	10	10						
*		0							
W6LFB	Jim	2	3						
*		1							
N5NVP	Jim	0	1						
		1							
N5PWG	Jay	2	6	2	2				
*		4		3					
K5QOW	Gary	6	6						
*		0							
K5RG	Ken	4	14						
*		10							
W5TMO	Mike	0	18						
*		18							
KD5TXD	Pat	3	6	3					3
*		3		3					3
NK5Z	Tom	25	45		11				
*		20			9				

			total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW	CTTN	TSN
Call		QNI							
Totals		263		60	60	0	50	0	7
				100%	100%	0%	83%	0%	12%
QTC 1		66	133						
QTC 2		67		Sessions:		60			
Time 1		306	622						
Time 2		316							

The roster has not been updated since last month, so has been omitted.

### **Operating:**

Last month I published the new texts from WB5NKD. Please write them down (or keep the newsletter PDF file handy for reference). When you are receiving one of the “known” text messages, such as the WB5NKD Check 22 or 23 messages, after receiving a couple words of the text (to verify it is indeed one of the standard texts), break the sending station and send “QSL” (assuming you got the address correctly). There is no need to take up time sending these texts over and over again when they are already well known.

### **Simulated Emergency Test**

I did not do anything special on October 2 for SET because there were only a couple of checkins on TEX. I did run the net on battery power, however.

Until next month,

73, Steve

(TSN Corner will return next month, hopefully.)