

The Texan

Newsletter of the Texas CW Traffic Net (TEX)

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

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March – April 24

Back to 40 Meters for Early Evening Nets

With the change back to Daylight Time and the change in the sun's effect due to earth tilt adjustments, it was soon observed that early TEX and early RN5 needed to move to 40. At the same time, even CAN needed to change to 40, which has greatly improved signals. So we will hopefully have good conditions now for the remainder of the spring and summer and into the fall. The increase in sunspots has also helped a great deal.

The late TEX and RN5 nets will remain on 80 as they always have been.

Eclipse Notes

The total eclipse occurred as predicted on April 8 for much of Texas. No reactions or notes were received from any TEX or RN5 members to share here. I did not personally go out to observe it, being more interested on its possible effect on radio propagation, and it was also somewhat cloudy at my QTH, but my daughter 30 miles away did go out and reported it was very impressive at her location. The totality only lasted 3 or 4 minutes and the observable decrease in light before the totality and increase again afterward lasted only a few minutes and was similar to when clouds move to obscure the direct sun for a short period.

Excerpt from Jack, W5TFB's Book

Here is the next excerpt from Jack's book. Jack and Sue grow even closer to each other. A lot of good information about cooking, too.

Tuesday 27 November It was after 8 when I woke up. It was raining, and the sky to the east was dark. Sue was not in bed, so I dressed and went downstairs. I opened the front door and walked out on the porch to get a better view of the sky. There was a little light low to the south, a fair breeze from the north, chilly. It occurred to me that Mae would need a ride to school, not that she couldn't walk, but it was nasty out. I was sure the wind was stronger and rain more penetrating away from the house.

I was cold so I went back in the house. Sue was in the kitchen putting up the clean dishes. She asked me what I wanted for breakfast. I got out a mug and poured coffee and said I wanted nothing.

I asked, "Where us the best place to buy shrimp? I want to make gumbo today and that's the only thing I need."

She said, "It's just across from the ice house. It used to be a filling station until we ran out of gasoline that summer. It still has the old style pumps outside. It has a hand-painted sign that says 'The Fish Man.' The owner is always there, must be older than us, but he has the freshest seafood anywhere. He is open now."

"I could take Mae to school and go there. I also need to do laundry, including whatever you need to be washed."

"Well, the sheets and towels could be washed I guess. I'll make you a basket or two while you're gone."

"Would it be OK if I bought some fish too? I recall you had baked bass in Lafayette. If there is still some left-over chicken by the time I make the gumbo I will add that. I'll ask Mae if that would be OK with her."

Sue said, "Yes, that would be good. George will fillet the fish after you select it and give you the parts not used separately so you can make fish stock. There is never any already filleted fish there. Same thing goes for shrimp: you will have to behead them yourself. He doesn't believe in mutilating his fish."

"Great! Gumbo made with fresh fish stock is even better. I have to use chicken stock in Texas."

Mae came in, not looking hungry, only sleepy. "It is raining hard. I had the north window open and it rained in just a little. Not much. The wind is strong and cold."

Sue said, "Jack has to buy things for dinner and can drop you off at school on his way. What will you have for breakfast?"

"Nothing, just coffee. I'm still full from last night."

I said, "I think we all are. That was a wonderful treat. After school, if you have time, I hope you can tell me how you cooked the broccoli."

"Better than that, I'll show you. It would go well with gumbo if you're still going to cook that. There is plenty of broccoli in the garden. Is there any more bread? Some toast will hold me until lunch."

I was closest, got out the much diminished loaf, and cut two slices. I was going to have to make bread, and we were out of whole wheat flour. I asked them where to buy that. The toast popped up, and I served Mae one slice. She said, "If you are going to get fish from George, just continue down to the docks and follow that road. On the right about a kilometer

from the docks there is a Whole Foods like store except local and a little less expensive. They have organic whole wheat flour in bulk. I noticed we are low on yeast too.”

I thanked her, and asked Sue if she would like to split the other toast. She would so we did. When Mae finished eating she said it’s 830 so we should go.

Sue walked us through the office to the parking lot where I was parked. The rain was cold. It was so windy an umbrella would be useless, but the car wasn’t far. In the car, I asked Mae about the leftover chicken. She said. “There is just the dark meat. You probably like it, but we don’t much. You could use the meat for the gumbo and the carcass for stock.”

Then Mae asked me when I was going back to Texas. I told her I had some medical things I had to do early next week so I would go back Sunday. I said I don’t know how long it will take. We arrived at the school and she told me I could just let her out in the street instead of waiting in line to save her ten seconds of rain.

I continued to the docks and found the ‘natural’ food store just where Mae said it was. I got twenty pounds of flour, half a pound of bulk bread yeast, and whole wheat pasta flour, went back to The Fish Man and got two pounds of shrimp. There was a pretty red snapper, so I got that, filleted. The Fish Man didn’t look old in spirit, but he was wall-to-wall wrinkles. I asked him if he ever fished, and he said he used to, for a living, out of Biloxi MS. He asked if I wanted the stuff he cut away for stock and I said I did. “Times have changed,” he said. “Folks usually say they don’t want the bones or other parts.”

I just nodded and thanked him. The rain had let up enough so that I could see pretty well. Sue must have seen me in the driveway because she met me at the office door. We took the stuff to the kitchen and I showed her the snapper. She asked if I could make Salsa Snapper, and I said sure. “As you saw, we could split a fillet for lunch and still have three for dinner with the gumbo. One of them is a little bigger than the others. It would make a nice lunch with a salad from the seemingly unlimited garden. It is just as easy to make a quart of picante as a cup. It keeps forever with all the acid from the tomatoes and vinegar. Do you think you would use some if there were, say, a pint in the icebox?”

“Yes. Sometimes I mix it with grated cheddar and microwave it until the cheese melts, then eat it with a spoon. I have actually eaten the Salsa, straight up, from the jar.”

“How decadent.”

“Good word, just perfect for the task. That sounds fine for lunch. I have a poncho that would fit you (or almost anyone over 5 feet tall) if you want to go to the garden now.” I said, “Let me do laundry first. I’m sure you have some, and I was going to wash the sheets and pillow cases in both rooms in addition to my stuff. There is probably some from the kitchen too. I’ll leave the basket next to your closet door. After the last laundry I didn’t give you back your basket, so I still have it.”

“My side isn’t locked. I already stripped the bed and gave you stuff to wash. It’s in a basket by your bed. Marie does all her own laundry and takes care of her room.”

I put the fish and shrimp in the icebox and went to do chores. Everything fit in one basket. One of the machines was free so I started the load.

I didn't know where Sue was, so I assumed she was in her office working, or out somewhere. I got the mixer and went to work on the bread. Perhaps this should be some kind of mystical experience, but actually it was automatic and required no thought.

I wondered why Mae had asked me about going back to Texas. The only thing I could come up with is she is worried that I won't come back, which is a possibility if I am too sick. This caused me to wonder why again, too deep I know, and it must be because she wants Sue and me to be together. It can't be that she likes me, for I am really nothing to her except a new friend. Well, I was on her side in this one. I wanted Sue and me to be together forever. I sort of asked her. I didn't ask her long ago and have regretted it until now.

While the bread was doing its thing, I found a large enameled pot on the icebox which would be perfect for the gumbo. Just to make sure I looked for and found the okra, and returned with four quarts. There was some canola oil, so I put a pint of that in the pot on the hottest burner, added a pint of flour, and cooked it on high, stirring frequently with a wooden spoon. Meanwhile I chopped onion and celery, and opened the okra to make sure it was good. I was using whole wheat flour so you can't go by the color, but smell is a better indicator anyway.

When the dark roux was ready I turned the heat to medium, added two T butter, the onion and celery, and heated the okra in the microwave. When the onion and celery had nearly melted I added the okra and stirred everything, adding hot stock to keep it thick but easy to stir. (After this it is almost certain that the roux will not disunite, but it is still better to not drastically lower the temperature.) Then I covered it and turned the heat to low. It would cook for hours just like it was. The stock looked like it was reduced to a quarter so I covered it and set to simmer. It was getting close to time for lunch, so I got a small Corningware dish, cut the larger of the snapper fillets in half and placed on the buttered dish skin side down, spooned the salsa over, and set aside. I turned the lower electric oven to 450°, and went out for lettuce. There was some tender romaine, and I selected that.

Back inside, I put some olive oil in the wooden salad bowl, added crushed garlic and salt, and rubbed that around. I washed and tore the lettuce and dried it on paper towels. I thought last night's salad was elegant and complicated but for lunch all we needed was a simple olive oil, vinegar, and egg dressing. I did use balsamic vinegar, a vinegar made from white grapes, the finest cured in wooden casks in which red wine had been aged. It is sweet and would be good for the tender young lettuce. I found a cheese grater loaded with Parma cheese in the freezer.

Just in time, Sue arrived. I said, "Lunch in 20 minutes, or say when." "Twenty minutes is good. I'll be down in ten." I put the fish in the oven. I went out and found that the laundry was dry, so I brought it in, took it upstairs to my room. Back to the kitchen, I punched the bread down and got out two large plates for the food. I had already put forks at the dinner table, and glasses of water. Sue came in. She looked tired somehow. "Is there anything wrong?" "Nothing you can help with. I don't know why I do this."

I peeked at the fish but the topping wasn't bubbling yet. "It'll be a few minutes. Business?" "Yes. When I know more I may even tell you."

I said, "Mae wanted to know when I go back to Texas. I told her Sunday because I have several medical things to do next week. I have tried to understand why she cares."

"Oh, men are such idiots. She worships you. If she had it in her she would kill to keep you here. Don't panic: She does not love you romantically. To her you are a deity, someone sent from afar to fix everything. I have to admit you have played your part, just by accident. Happenstance would be a better word."

"Lunch is ready." I brought plates with fish and the salad bowl to the kitchen table, made the dressing at the table, and sat. I said, "I can possibly add to this complex relationship. Mae said she had overheard you say I was good for her. Mae said, verbatim, 'I don't think it is for me. You treated Craig the same as me. You were incurably nice to Uncle Johnny, even though you could have handed him another defeat, one of a constant parade. You didn't know Ruth's name but she was not offended, and told me good things about you. It goes on and on. You are almost as good a cook as I am, but I admit your bread is something else. The soufflé was not up to my standard because there was a faint hint of either bad or incorrect cheese. The eggs Benedict were the only ones I have had that were edible. So, it comes and goes.' "

Sue sighed. "I wish I could do that." She was half-way through her fish.

"What?" "Remember stuff like that. I know you are right: it sounds like Marie, not you, and it contains things you couldn't have known, some that I know independently."

I was eating. I thought it was good. Snapper stands up to the salsa. I never thought it could. I didn't tell Sue I could remember conversations much longer than that one, over an hour if I knew everyone.

I was listening while making the dough into loaves. I asked, "Would you like to try a couple of baguettes instead of one of the American loaves?"

"That would be fun. Sure."

I put the marble slab in. It wouldn't make any difference in how the loaf in the Pyrex pan cooked. However, the oven would need to be preheated about 15 minutes longer than usual. I made the baguettes and loaf and covered with a towel to let rise.

In the kitchen, I set the oven to 475° and chopped some marjoram and stirred it in the salsa. I also added 1 t salt. If I had used canned tomatoes there would be ten times what I added. I stirred the gumbo base. Nothing was recognizable. In Texas I divide it into one serving size quantities, about a pint, and freeze it. For gumbo the next day, put the base in the main part of the icebox. Next day heat, and add whatever you have.

I strained the stock and mixed it with the gumbo base, then increased the heat so it would simmer uncovered. I got out the dark meat and cut it into half inch cubes (or that much volume) and added that to the gumbo. I would add the shrimp ten minutes before serving. It was 1530. Mae should be home by 4. It had quit raining at noon, and it was a fifteen minute walk.

"What can I do?"

“Kiss me. Fetch lettuce from the garden, and anything else you would like for a salad. We will eat in the kitchen.” She gave me a peck, grabbed the basket, a sharp paring knife, and left.

The front door opened. I thought it would be Sue. It surprised me when Mae came in. She said, “I caught a ride.” I told her the state of things, and asked her if she was hungry. She said, “I could eat, but about 5 would be better since I have an hours worth of homework to do. No more than that.”

“Have you heard from Craig?”

“Just email. He is bored out of his mind with school and Ruth is mad about something, probably not him. He has a great scholarship from U T Dallas. Thank you for helping me with that problem. Because of you it isn’t one.”

I decided to quit saying I hadn’t done anything, so I just said she was welcome. She left, and the real Sue came in the door. She said Bert had some problem I didn’t understand, and I told her Mae was upstairs doing homework and that dinner would be at 5. The gathering basket was full, so that was going to be a typical female salad.

I suggested, “We have an hour and I would like to hold you now if you think that good. We have not done much holding.”

“Sounds good. I put on clean sheets after you took the others to wash.” I turned down the fire under the gumbo, covered it, and let her lead me there once again.

Mae was doing homework at a desk in the library. It looked like math, except upside down. Sue didn’t seem to care if we were seen. In her room, we undressed and crawled between the clean sheets. It was so wonderful to hold her! We started out with smoochy kisses, but she turned over and we spooned. It was nice. When we do this she usually has her head on my shoulder. I was going to have to keep track of time and be downstairs by 1640. This was an ideal setting for falling sound asleep. I guess I didn’t think this thing through, but holding Sue was something I needed, probably we both did.

I looked back at the clock and saw 1635, so I got up, went through the closet passage, and dressed in the newly clean clothes. As I passed the library I noticed Mae was not at that desk. Downstairs I found her at the chess board, but I didn’t think I had time to see what she was studying. I noticed she was writing in a notebook. Called her to have dinner soon.

We ate when Sue came down. Everything was excellent. After dinner Sue and I went for a walk and I said, “I asked Mae about Craig and she said they send email about every other day. That is about right if you want a sustainable pace. More, and one or the other will snap. I would guess Craig. He is a control freak, but the only one he has to control is himself. I know that’s not what control freak means, although they often feel the need to strictly control their own lives and environment.”

“I’m glad one isn’t nuts about the other. They’re too young anyway. It always amazes me that Marie knows that. I didn’t.”

“It has to be you. You have been a great mom to her, and she’s crazy about you.”

We were back at the house. Mae was still at the chessboard studying. I thought I heard the dishwasher going in the kitchen. Sue did, and said so. When we got there, we were amazed to see the kitchen was spotless. There was a note on the counter above the dishwasher. It read, "Thank you both for the wonderful dinner. Everything was perfect. Love to both, Marie"

Can we interrupt her work to thank her?"

"Yes. She is the second person in Louisiana who has thanked me for anything, and she expects us to thank her. We do, don't we?"

"Don't be silly, you know we do. Let's do it." " We went in to interrupt Mae. She was using a weird notation for following the move tree. I studied it for a minute, got a hint but not an answer. She looked up, and said, "Yes?"

Sue said, "Thank you for cleaning up for us. We didn't expect that. We both thank you deeply for the sweet note." She just smiled.

I told everyone it was getting late, school day tomorrow and so on, and went upstairs. I was putting on the sheets when Sue came in. I said, "Help me with the other corner. It keeps popping out."

Once the bed was made she said, "I want to sleep here with you tonight. It has everything to do with love. Somehow it is different here. It is very quiet." Then she said, "You know what happens to the sounds we hear?" I said yes.

"Indeed. Even your Morse code. Sounds do not reach the brain as sounds. What we see is more likely to reach the brain intact. Sounds are disassembled and put back together the way the brain wants them, which often has little to do with the source sounds. I am aware that you can put more feeling, power, and resonance into poetry than when Marie recites, but it would not touch me the way her renditions do."

I had more or less made the bed. At least it had sheets and pillow cases, and a blanket was at hand. It was warm in the house from all the cooking. I was dressed. "Please stay. I promise I won't molest you. The afternoon holding was incomplete. I am not ashamed to admit that I need a lot more."

"Since when have you molested me? But I want that too. How should I dress?"

"I think a gown. We don't slide around so much when you have one on." She went through the closet and in a minute came back wearing a long gown, which seemed to be made for her. It took me a minute to realize it was made to the same pattern as her double flannel gown,

except made of cotton, or a cotton blend, no nap. I was too tired to care, and desperately needed Sue. Not a good feeling, but I knew holding her would fix it. I know it is bad tactics, but I told her: "Darling, I need you tonight like never before." The 'darling' just came out. I had never addressed anyone as darling before. I hoped she would understand it was affection.

We fell asleep in each other's arms before my worries were resolved, but I guess that did resolve them. I held her tight at first, on my bony shoulder. The last thought I had was, 'Where does this insecurity come from? I was OK alone, and now I am needy? How come?'

To Be Continued if there is still interest

TEX / RN5 Mailbox:

Please send in your feedback, gripes, and suggestions. The mailbox had only a few inputs concerning TEX and RN5 for this newsletter other than normal net reporting business.

Pete, **K5GM**, Feb 22: Hi, Steve,
Sorry I haven't been a better correspondent. We are settled in Oak Ridge, TN, in a house adjacent to my daughter's, a lucky situation! I have an MFJ G5RV Jr up, and have done a little operating, BUT I still have a bad right shoulder and arm; my writing is very slow, with very poor penmanship. So I think that my traffic days are over. I'm typing this one-handed, so this is also very slow.

However. I am very interested in the progress of RRI and NTS (2.0?) AND would enjoy sitting in on the RRI meeting.

Thanks a bunch, Steve. Hi to the gang!

73

Pete Jordahl, K5GM

k5gm@amsat.org

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Mar 13, Jon **KZ5Z**: Hi Steve. Wonder if someone might want to be NCS on early TEX and RN5 liaison on Wednesday and NCS on early Tex and early RN5 on Sunday nights. I started covering during COVID when our church had shut down night services but they started back some time ago and I normally help them with the music. If possible I'd like to miss the early nets on Wednesday and Sunday if someone else would volunteer to cover those. If not I'll keep going. Between the open nets and K5WNU spots I'm currently covering 13 NCS positions a week. I don't mind and I enjoy it, but would like those times off on Wednesday and Sunday if you can get any volunteers. I'm not complaining and very glad to help out. Just need to get back to those church services. I can be back in time for the late nets. Thanks and 73, Jon

Mar 15, Randy, **N5RL**: Steve,

I told Jon KZ5Z that I would take Early TEX NCS on both Wednesday and Sunday nights for him. I will also keep my normal NCS on Early Tuesday and Friday as well.

73 de Randy N5RL

Thanks Very Much, Randy!

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Mar 15, N5RL:

Steve,

Condx on 80 meters 3541 are declining and sigs are weak at 1900 L. I think its time to move to 40 meters, 7106 vice 7108 because the digital thugs have pretty much taken over 7108. Do you concur or have other ideas on the subject ?

73 de Randy N5RL

Mar 17, N5RL

7106 worked perfectly on Sunday, no QRM, low noise, and great signals from both K5IX and W5CU. Just two checkins but thats life on TEX. If we had six it would be a near record night. Our participation grows less as more SK's join the ranks but nothing we can change there. Perhaps we can encourage a few more CW diehards to join us who are interested. There of course would be a benefit to anyone interested in traffic handling. One never knows when chaos might be on us and ham radio can deliver a genuine benefit to this country.

73 de Randy

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April 2, Don, W9VE: Hi, Steve.

Sorry I have not been active on HF this past month because of a car crash - we are OK now.

Here are my reports...

Thanks, Don, and sorry to hear about the car accident. Glad you are well again.

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TEX Net Topics

The TEX Duty Schedule and Roster are shown below. If you are willing to take any of the open positions or want to change your assignment, please advise so the schedule may be updated. We are still missing primary coverage for 3 NCS, 2 RN5/1 and 1 RN5/2 slots. Thanks to Randy for taking the Friday and Sunday early nets so Jon could be a musician at his church.

Early sessions move to 40 meters along with CAN and WAN. The late sessions of TEX and RN5 remain on 80 meters. Note that the early TEX (and early RN5) frequency has changed from 7108 to 7106 due to regular digital QRM as indicated in the Mailbox items.

TEX CW Net Weekly Schedule

Local	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
NC 1	Open	N5RL	Open	W9VE	N5RL	No Net	N5RL
Backup	Open	Open	N5RL	N5RL	Open	No Net	Open
NC 2	K5IX	K6JT	K6JT	K6JT	Open	No Net	KZ5Z
Backup	Open	Open	KZ5Z	KZ5Z	KZ5Z	No Net	Open

RN5 1	N5RL	KZ5Z	Open	KZ5Z	Open	No Net	KZ5Z
Backup	Open	Open	KZ5Z	Open	Open	No Net	Open
RN5 2	W5CU	K6JT	K5RG	K6JT	Open	No Net	KZ5Z
Backup	Open	KZ5Z	W5CU	KZ5Z	Open	No Net	Open
TTN/7290	Open	N5RL/KZ5Z	Open	KZ5Z/N5RL	Open	Nada	Open

TEX/1: **7106**/3541/3593 at 19:00 CT; TEX/2 **3541**/3593/1841 at 22:00 CT
RN5/1: **7106**/3567 at 19:30; RN5/2: **3567**/3598/7106 at 21:30 CT
CAN: **7052**/3590/3552/7106 - 20:30 CT; WAN: **7052**/3552 - 22:30 CT

RN5 Backup: K5RG, N5RL, KZ5Z, W5CU

NCS Backup: K5RG, N5RL, KZ5Z, W5CU, W5FEA, K5IX, W9VE

TEX Roster

Call	Name	Location / Notes	Call	Name	Location / Notes
KW5AS	Skip	Victoria	* W6LFB	Jim	Denton
N5BA	Brian	Houston	WA5MS	Marty	Argyle
WA5CAV	Dick	Pineville LA	NM5M	Eric	Plano
W5CU	Sam	Edmond OK, /0 CO	N7NET	Scott	Crossett AR
N5CXX	Steve	Richardson (K6JT)	* KB5NJD	John	Duncanville
W5DAE	Don	San Angelo	W5OMR	Geoff	San Antonio
W5DY	Rodney	Silent Key 3/31/23	* K5RG	Ken	Houston
W5ESE	Scott	Dripping Springs	N5RL	Randy	San Antonio
* W5FEA	Jim	Graham	KD5RQB	Jason	Atlanta
K5GM	Pete	Tennessee	KD5TXD	Pat	Kingsville
KM0I	John	Hattiesburg MS	W9VE	Don	Dallas
KA9IKK	Bill	Katy	WB5VIH	Dave	Merkel
* K5IX	Dave	Brackettville/Del Rio	NA5YO	Doug	Palacios
K5JFB	Jim	Fort Worth	KZ5Z	Jon	Springer OK
K6JT	Steve	Plano	W0ZV	Tom	Missouri
* K5KV	Benny	Star			

* Capable of 160 meter operation

Statistics:

February 2024:

Jon, KZ5Z, was first with 47 (90%), Don, W5DAE, was second place with 44 (87%), and Randy, N5RL, was third with 32 (83%). Thanks again to all who checked in.

Visitors: AA5R, Deroy in Austin

The complete list of stations and traffic / liaison totals are shown in the following table. Note there were 49 sessions reported out of a possible 50 (no Saturday nets). Traffic averaged 0.96 per net session (0.69 last month). Net time averaged 9.0 minutes per session (8.8 last month). Check-ins averaged 4.4 per session (4.3 last month).

TEX Net Statistics (February 2024)

Call	Name	QNI	Total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW
W5CU	Sam	10	11				
*		1					
W5DAE	Don	22	44				
		22					
W5FEA	Jim	7	19				
*		12					
K5IX	Dave	12	22				
		10		4			
K6JT	Steve	0	13				
*		13		13	8		13
AA5R	Deroy	1	1				
*	Austin	0					
K5RG	Ken	0	5				
*		5			5		
N5RL	Randy	17	32	7			
*		15					
W0ZV	Tom	11	11				
	MO	0					
W9VE	Don	10	11	3			10
		1					1
KZ5Z	Jon	23	47	15	22	3	
	OK	24		7	11	3	
Totals		216		49	46	6	24
				98%	92%	12%	48%
QTC 1		4	62				
QTC 2		58		Sessions:	50		
Time 1		214	439				
Time 2		225					

March 2024:

Randy, N5RL, was 1st with 49 (96%), Jon, KZ5Z, was 2nd with 46 (90%), and Don, W5DAE, was 3rd with 43 (84%). Thanks again to all of you who checked in.

Visitors: Dan, AD7HI, from New Mexico, AA5R, Deroy, from Austin

The complete list of stations and traffic / liaison totals are shown in the following table. Note that there were 51 sessions reported out of a possible 52 (no Saturdays). Traffic averaged

0.76 per net session (0.96 last month). Net time averaged 9 minutes per session (9.0 last month). Check-ins averaged 4.5 per session (4.4 last month).

TEX Net Statistics (March 2024)

Call	Name	QNI	Total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW
W5CU	Sam	14	14		4		
*		0					
W5DAE	Don	19	43				
		24					
W5FEA	Jim	1	9				
*		8					
AD7HI	Dan	6	6				
	NM	0					
K5IX	Dave	14	26				
		12		4			
K6JT	Steve	0	13				
*		13		13	9		13
AA5R	Deroy	1	1				
*	Austin	0					
K5RG	Ken	0	4				
*		4			4		
N5RL	Randy	24	49	12			
*		25		1			
W9VE	Don	6	6	1			5
		0					
KZ5Z	Jon	20	46	12	20	1	
	OK	26		8	13	2	
W0ZV	Tom	10	10				
	MO	0					
Totals		227		51	50	3	18
				98%	96%	6%	35%
QTC 1		3	39				
QTC 2		36		Sessions:		52	
Time 1		239	458				
Time 2		219					

Operating:

TEX traffic and check-ins were again low both months. Thanks to those of you who continue to support TEX. We can really use some more traffic and net members.

The change to 40 for the early TEX and RN5 sessions seems to be working well. So far there have been no reported long skip nights for late TEX on 80.

Keep in mind that while TTN stands for Texas Traffic Net, it is used in reporting to indicate TTN on Early TEX for incoming traffic and the 7290 traffic net on Late TEX for outgoing traffic not otherwise handled.

Please try to get your net reports to me within a week of the sessions. It is difficult to find information at the end of the month for unreported nets that occurred weeks earlier. I enter the reports into my database a couple times a week.

Here are the composite reports for the last 2 months for traffic handled at the region and above levels. Traffic totals were up both months, around the normal values this time of year.

Central US Nets Activity for February 2024

Net	Sessions	QTC	QNI	QTR	Rate
Day 5 th Call Area	12	57	47	54	1.056
Day 9 th Call Area	12	274	80	63	4.349
Day 10 th Call Area	12	12	48	59	0.203
Night 5 th Call Area**	50	278	191	540	0.515
Night 9 th Call Area	51	436	167	409	1.066
Night 10 th Call Area	51	88	161	430	0.205
Day Central US	12	160	100	277	0.578
Night Central US @	29	751	158	458	1.640
Day Inter-Area Traffic	36	108	36		100%
Night Inter-Area Traffic	79	212	77		97%
Total Voice/CW Nets		2376	1065	2290	
DTN Digital			Received	Sent	
KE5YTA Central Area RN5		645	276	369	
N9VC Central Area 9RN/TEN		4896	2254	2642	
Digital Stations (12)		562	320	242	
Total DTN Digital		6103			
Total Central US		8479			
@ Manager resigned, nominations open. Composite from NCS reports received					
** Nominations open for manager - thanks to NCS stations for statistics					

Central US Nets Activity for March 2024

Net	Sessions	QTC	QNI	QTR	Rate
Day 5 th Call Area	13	31	66	65	0.477
Day 9 th Call Area	13	182	81	60	3.033
Day 10 th Call Area	12	13	78	63	0.206
Night 5 th Call Area**	48	195	171	466	0.418
Night 9 th Call Area	53	472	155	373	1.265
Night 10 th Call Area	52	62	186	364	0.170
Day Central US	13	117	98	275	0.425
Night Central US @	31	677	163	427	1.585
Day Inter-Area Traffic	39	85	39		100%
Night Inter-Area Traffic	67	254	66		99%
Total Voice/CW Nets		2088	1103	2093	
DTN Digital			Received	Sent	
KE5YTA Central Area RN5		568	290	278	
N9VC Central Area 9RN/10RN		5243	2558	2685	
Digital Stations (12)		296	155	141	
Total DTN Digital		6107			
Total Central US		8195			
@ Manager resigned, nominations open. Composite from NCS reports received					
** Nominations open for manager, thanks to NC Stations for statistics					

DTN Access:

KE5YTA Pactor 1800-0600 CT Mon/Tue and Tue/Wed, Wed 1800 to Mon 0600
Center Frequencies: DTN 3591, 7103, and 14098; RMS Winlink 3.589 and 7.1024
N9VC Pactor + VARA 24/7 except when on HF Nets
Center Frequencies (both Pactor/VARA) 3591.9, 3593.9, 7102.4, 14110.4

Keep sending your TEX net reports and inputs for this Newsletter to me, either on the air via TEX or RN5, via Winlink, or via standard Email.

Wishing everyone Good Health and a happy Spring

Until June, 73, Steve K6JT
TEX Newsletter Editor and Statistician

RN5 Corner

RRI Fifth Call Area Net (Daily) 1930 CT on **7106** and 2130 CT on **3567**
Alternate Frequency 3598 when conditions warrant
Serving TX, OK, LA, AR, MS, TN, AL, and NFL
Due to Frank W4DLZ becoming a Silent Key
Nominations are still open for Net Manager

Hello all and welcome to Edition 95 of the **RN5 Corner**.

Thanks again to those who support RN5 and especially to the NCS stations for their reports. All nights were covered and reported in February (other than Saturdays, which remain optional). 4 nights were missing in March reports.

Jack K5WNU, reports he is still out of service due to taking his wife for blind rehab in Biloxi. If and when things improve Jack will be back to help.

Jon continues to either check in or control nearly every RN5 session, and along with Sam, is covering Jack's slots. Sam, W5CU, also helps by bringing traffic from CAN. Sam and Jon are the only ones who take outgoing RN5 traffic to CAN. We need more help with CAN liaisons.

Here is a list of the stations sending NC reports for February and March (in order from earliest date station first reported that month). Thanks to everyone for supporting RN5. NCS slots are now available due to Jack's absence. There are many empty CAN liaison slots.

February: W5CU 13, KZ5Z 29, K6JT 8
March: KZ5Z 28, K6JT 9, W5CU 11

Dick, WA5CAV, is on most sessions. Dick, if nobody calls up the net, please send me a note of zero checkins for that session and date. Thanks.

Thanks to all for your support of RN5, especially regulars WA5CAV, W5CU, KZ5Z, K6JT, N5RL and K5RG. John KC4FL, Dean W8IM, and Ben KZ8Q, also check in from FL some nights. Dean reported he is happy the early net is back on 40.

Please continue to pass AR traffic to the TEX liaison station to take for the 7290 Traffic Net. If there is no TEX liaison, these may be sent to the 7290 Traffic Net manager, KA5AZK at Winlink dot org (also see below for subject line restrictions). OK traffic can now be sent to Jon, KZ5Z. Jon also checks into TEX so TX traffic can be sent to him if no other TEX liaison.

Jon reports if anyone needs another outlet for Alabama or Tennessee traffic, K4OTM from San Angelo will often take those. He is on the 7290 net almost every day.

TN traffic can be sent to Jim, WA4VGZ, who is the manager of daytime RN5 and located in TN. Use WA4VGZ@Winlink.org. For Winlink addresses via E-mail, be sure to put //WL2K as the first 7 letters (including space) in the subject line. AL traffic can be handled by sending it to Don, WV5Q@Winlink.org. Don is a digital traffic station located in MS, but he has connections with AL SSB nets for passing traffic.

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

RN5 Duty Roster

Local	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
NCS #1	K5WNU	K5WNU	W5CU	K5WNU	K5WNU	(No net)	KZ5Z
NCS #2	K5WNU	K6JT	W5CU	K6JT	K5WNU	(No net)	KZ5Z
CAN TX	Open	Open	W5CU	Open	Open	(No net)	Open
CAN RX	Open	Open	W5CU	K6JT	Open	(No net)	Open
DRN5	Open	K6JT	K5RG	K6JT	Open	(No net)	Open

K5WNU caring for wife in Biloxi

2024 Statistics

MONTH	February	March
SESSIONS	50	48
QTC	278	195
QNI	191	171
QTR	540	466
AVG QTC	5.6	4.1
AVG QNI	3.8	3.6
AVG QTR	10.8	9.7

The following roster shows stations coming to RN5 in the past 5 years and their states.

Region Net 5 Roster

Call	Name	State	Call	Name	State
WB5BNV	FRED	MS	K6JT	STEVE	TX
WA5CAV	DICK	LA	WD5JTZ	MIKE	LA
W5CU	SAM	OK / CO	WB4LAL	IKE	AL
W4DLZ	FRANK	(SK)	KZ8Q	BEN	FL
W5DY	RODNEY	(SK)	K5RG	KEN	TX
W5FEA	JIM	TX	N5RL	RANDY	TX
KC4FL	JOHN	FL	K4VIZ	TOM	AR**
K5GM	PETE	TN	K5WNU	JACK	MS
W8IM	DEAN	FL	KZ5Z	JON	OK / (TX)

** K4VIZ is only marginally active. Send AR to the TEX station for the 7290 net (do not use DRN5 since there is only an occasional AR liaison station there).

73, Steve K6JT
 Newsletter editor and RN5 statistician