

The Texan

Newsletter of the Texas CW Traffic Net (TEX)

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

Net Manager: Position Open (W5DY silent key)

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January – February 24

From NASA Regarding the April 8 Eclipse

TEX operators will be in the midst of the complete eclipse, which will take place around 12:30 CDT on Monday. This occurs before the next TEXAN newsletter comes out. Here is how you might want to participate:

Ham Radio operators, we're calling you! Members of the Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation (HamSCI) will be making radio contacts during the 2023 and 2024 North American eclipses, probing the Earth's ionosphere. It will be a fun, friendly event with a competitive element—and you're invited to participate.

Both amateur and professional broadcasters have been sending and receiving radio signals around the Earth for over a century. Such communication is possible due to interactions between our Sun and the ionosphere, the ionized region of the Earth's atmosphere located roughly 80 to 1000 km overhead. The upcoming eclipses (October 14, 2023, and April 8, 2024) provide unique opportunities to study these interactions. As you and other HamSCI members transmit, receive, and record signals across the radio spectrum during the eclipse, you will create valuable data to test computer models of the ionosphere.

For more information, go to <https://hamsci.org/festivals-eclipse-ionospheric-science>

Please send in your reactions and notes for the next newsletter, too.

Excerpt from Jack, W5TFB's Book

Here is the next excerpt from Jack's book. Mae cooks a dinner for them to celebrate Love for her Grandma and Jack.

I said, "I thought so, and that is the problem I have been working on. I'm trying to take it easy, slow would be better, because similar decisions made me sick twice when I forced it. I have to return to Texas for at least a few days. I have some health-related appointments I should not miss and some legal changes to make. Nothing like what you would have to do, but more than a routine chore. If you want to come with me that would be fine, but I can't wait until the Winter Solstice break so that Mae can come too, and I would not recommend she be left here on her

own. She was brave because she knew she was not alone. She probably wants us to be together because she wants a stable family and a father-figure. She has most of that now, but she likes me, and, after all, she really found me. There is something to be said for having someone who approaches life like a man around. Right now Mae and I are in this honeymoon-like mutual admiration society, but it will not last. Eventually I will know her as an ordinary mortal. To me, now, she is a treasure, the one who spoke to me wondering if I was OK after a near-miss lightning strike, the one I saw a lot of you in, and who was bold enough to tell me your name when I asked."

"Yes, but you were bold enough to ask. That is unlike you. I want to believe, but help me. Explain."

I thought, 'Why don't you say what you want instead of making me guess.' But this time I think I got it right. "Yes, it is unlike me, completely foreign, but the whole thing is simple. I have been searching for you for fifty-six years. After the first year no one was interested. A few felt sorry for me, but said, as kindly as possible, 'Move on, give up on this.' And I tried to. The results are not pretty, you know enough to know that.

"When I was in Houston I twice stopped a woman, not the same one, who looked like it could be you. One's first name was Sue, Sue Clark I think, but she was from Beaumont. I am not a detective. When the internet came to A&M I searched for 'Sue Barber' and got thousands of hits. The last time I looked there were 138,000 hits, using Google, about a month ago. The first search engine I used was Mosaic. Because you are a woman your name is not engraved in granite. A man's isn't either, but it takes a trip to a judge to change it, so I had no idea what your name would be fifty years later."

"I never married." "I suppose not, but you also did not make yourself visible on the internet." "Now you know why." "Yes, you want to be invisible, to attract as little attention as possible. There must be hundreds of companies that do what you do, at least more or less, and any one of them would like to know what the others were doing."

"Our best estimate of the number of companies that admit to doing what we do is now 124, not counting limited partnerships, which are probably bad ideas. We don't waste any time trying to see what they are doing. And then there are individuals. Most of the people who try this on their own lose. For all I know someone in this company is doing that, although that would be contrary to their employment contract. We could save a lot on research if we spent a little on covert operations or bribery. We don't because we are doing OK. It only takes three big deals a year to keep us going. So far this year we have had two and seven medium deals. "Sometimes I miss being in real estate until I remember that the company didn't really take off until my partner left with the real estate component. We diversify now by keeping our cash in index funds until it is needed. They can be liquidated at no cost at any time. The total in cash is substantial. We keep petty cash in a money market account. They told me the total this morning but I will not tell you."

"OK." I was fairly sure her secret number was about as hidden as Mae's safe combination. "I'm not sure that I would even understand the number. One of the lawyers that helped on Mae's school problem knows about you." "Who?"

“Joseph Jones. He said you are a genius at real estate, and he is sad to know that you are not still in it. He is the one who found Connie Owens although the Houston lawyer had her on his list of three.”

“I don’t know Joseph personally, but I do know his ex-partner Ruth Zephaniah. They tried to do in Texas, mainly the Houston area, what I did out of Lafayette. They called their company Jonz, which I am sure did not help. They lost a lot of money on a deal involving a 6,400 acre ranch they bought from Sterling Evans, a two mile frontage along US 290/TX 6, five miles deep, the deal highly leveraged. Hewlett-Packard was going to build a plant just north of Houston, and they believed a rumor it was that property HP was interested in. It wasn’t, and Jonz took a bath.

“I like what our company is doing here. The deals are bigger and have a much longer lifetime than anything in real estate except for actively managed properties; that’s a good way to make a living if you don’t like living. By the way, we have that too, a high rise condo in Little Rock, a shopping mall in Memphis, and an office building in Lafayette, mostly as a hedge against market crashes. We have management firms do the day-to-day chores, but in the company we have had to do our homework and watch our cash flow. That is what we do here, the people you see come to work. Twice as many work at home, and as many travel.”
I wasn’t really listening to the details, but it made time to remember something from long ago. “Isn’t Zephaniah a seventh century B.C. minor prophet? I believe he originated the idea that there will be a day of judgment.”

Sue said, “Yes, giving religion a power over you even after you cease to exist. It is a powerful idea if you believe it.”

“I had never talked to anyone in bed, especially a sexy naked woman. This afternoon I thought it a good idea, and learned, this time, it is. But even good ideas often have a short life. Perhaps I should dance with the idea for which we climbed the stairs...

All of a sudden I needed a diversion, so I decided on computing $\int \sin \omega x \, dx$, integrating by parts. That worked about as well as you would think, but memory of these things is notoriously unreliable.

I heard the front door shut, firmer than usual, and said, “I think Mae is home, If you’ll let me up I can go greet her. We have something to talk about anyway. I’ll wash up. On the way out I told her I loved her, but I don’t think she heard me.

Mae was in the kitchen. She asked, “Do I cook?” I told her yes, but if she had homework we could put it off.

“Not much homework. They have a new principal, still no assistant. No one is saying anything about it in school, except all my teachers are treating me with a different kind of respect. Not the kind when you just make all A’s. I am still being hounded and I am still saying no comment, and I think they finally believe me.”

“Good for you. Did you tell about chess?”

“No, they wouldn’t understand. It is enough that I do. When you have a girlfriend far away how often do you write?”

“It depends. At first, just a single email. If that is returned, then another. If that is returned, certainly every day, but short. If no reply one day, then skip a day. The trick is to give him his space. “If snail mail, only if you need to send something that can’t fit on paper. With that nice scanner in the library I can’t imagine anything. If you are not talking about Craig, but literally my girlfriend, then I don’t have to, she is right here.”

“What happened when you told her?”

“I’m still here. That tells it all. If you want more, Sue will probably tell you. You can say I said it was OK for her to tell. Actually it wasn’t much since we both knew it. Remember the time you asked if I was a blabbermouth? Well, I’m still not.”

“I have heard Grandma say you are good for me. 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 standards 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.”

“Do you need any help cooking tonight? I can do anything you are likely to need, and I have served under the command of some great but demanding chefs. So use me if you like.”

Mae thought about it, but said, “No, thank you, I think I can handle it. If you think Grandma will stand for it, I would like for you to leave and close the door to the dining room. Tell Grandma dinner is at 7. You have to fly solo eventually.”

I thought but did not say, ‘That’s for sure.’ What a wonderful young woman, as good as Sue was at about the same age. I left, closing the dining room door.

I decided not to go back upstairs until 6, and then tell Sue about dinner. She might be asleep. I went into the sitting room and found the cookbooks. I brought one out, published in 1890, London, and sat on that comfortable couch. There was just barely enough light so I went to one of the swivel chairs, which shared an old floor lamp.

The book was about making beer (they called it ale) and wine. I remember trying to make pear hard cider, but I guess some bad yeast got in because it smelled like propane, and was not good for anything. I tried igniting a small sample but it didn’t burn. Probably needed to be distilled. I couldn’t remember the boiling point of acetone. Maybe never knew it. I had never tried making beer. It looked easy enough, but I didn’t see how to get the ingredients in small quantities cheaply enough to make the venture pay.

Sue came down the stairs wearing her flannel gown. She saw where I was in the book. “Are we going to have a brewery? You could start in a corner of the barn.”

"No, I just like old books. You have this one in the sitting room. I'll put it up." I held her hand and took her with me. I had estimated the number of books here, about three thousand. A third chess. I had about a hundred counting books about chess players. The rest of the books in this small library were about domestic things, cooking, gardening, a nice selection about architecture and carpentry, a shelf contained every school book Mae used, in order.

Sue and I sat on a love seat across from an east window. The sun was about to set. I told Sue about dinner at 7. I put my arm around her and she cuddled up next to me. She said, "So that's why the dining room door is closed. Mae is cooking us dinner. She has helped me cook since she was four, but never all by herself for three people."

"I offered to help, but she thought about it and said no. You will like what she said next: 'You have to fly solo eventually.' She asked me to close the door, and I left without comment."

"She is right, and the comment is like her, but why is she doing it now?"

I had expected this and decided, since Mae did not ask me not to not tell Sue, not to withhold anything, I had a free hand. "It is the payment of a bribe. To get the dinner I had to tell you I love you."

"That doesn't seem so operose, particularly since you knew I knew it anyway, but it did make me warm all over on a chilly windy afternoon. That hasn't worn off yet, I hope it never does. And our lovemaking today is indescribable. I think your saying it right out loud had something to do with that."

I thought, 'Maybe indescribable, but I intend to try.' I was enjoying her gown. It has long sleeves, a scooped out neck, fit snugly, but was full below mid thigh. The first time I saw it I thought about Ruth's black ballet dress. I didn't know it could be had in flannel. Out loud I said, "I love this gown. It warms me as much as it must you."

"Yes, it feels wonderful. It is good to dance in. I have, alone. The way it is cut gives me some support as well. I know you have noticed that. The fabric softens your already gentle touch."

"You must have designed it yourself and had it made for you."

"Yes. The seamstress now owns the store where you bought your new clothes. The cloth is not actually flannel, for it has a nap on both sides. The wool is alpaca, made at my suggestion, in Brazil. I once had a bolt of it but I gradually gave it away and only have ten yards or so now, in cold storage in Lafayette.

Just to my left was a small fireplace; I hadn't seen a woodpile so it may not be used now. On the mantel was an old ship's clock, beautiful polished brass. It read a quarter of seven. "Would you like to change before dinner?"

"No, I love this gown and Marie is used to me in it. Next time I go to Lafayette I'm going to get the cloth and have one made for Marie. For her sixteenth birthday.

"I could wear the gown to a party. Oh, I'm wearing silk stockings because I figure you like me in them. I also like the shoes I have on, only 2 inch heels, but they fit better than most. I don't usually wear heels, not even these low ones."

I wanted to take her upstairs... It was almost 7 so we went to the front room and sat on the couch I liked. It was much nicer than the loveseat, which seemed to be designed for looks, not sitting.

Mae came out to announce dinner. She told Sue, "You look lovely this evening. I hope you enjoy your dinner."

Sue said, "Thank you. We are both looking forward to it."

When we got to the dining room I understood why she wanted the door closed. It was to keep all the wonderful aroma of the cooking bottled up. To have to smell things one at a time would have detracted from the event with all blended.

Mae led us into the dining room. She had moved nine of the chairs from the table, had us sit at each end of the table. Mae had her place the side nearest the kitchen door, centered between us. On each side of the central vase of flowers were five lit candles, tall white beeswax ones, elegant. I wondered if she did that so Sue and I could not see each other, and therefore she would receive more attention. Probably not. Indeed, she moved the vase and candles to the place across from hers.

The room was lit with three spotlights down the center of the table. (All four of the china cabinets were also lit, but that was dim. Mae's trophies were on the cabinet nearest the kitchen wall under glass shelves holding pottery.) The spots were subdued, subjectively a tenth full brightness. Except for a wooden salad bowl with greens of some sort on the teak cart, no food was visible, just weapons for attacking the food and the nice ironed linen napkins. Each place had a plain glass of water, and there was a bowl of ice that could be passed if needed on the cart. At each end place was an elegant hand-written menu. Her handwriting was even better when she wanted it to be. I can't reproduce it here, only the words. I don't think it is corny. I still have the menu.

Dinner to Celebrate Love For Grandma and Jack

Chicken Florentine Haricot Beans. Baked Artichokes, Broccoli Sautéed in Wine and Garlic Wilted Spinach Salad with Snails.

Before we sat, I told Mae, "Sue asked me how come the dinner, and I told her." Mae said, "I knew she would ask or figure it out herself. I'm glad you told her." She went into the kitchen and brought a tray with three dinner plates, the entrée already served, returned with three bowls of side dishes and a straw basket of rolls. As she served us she said, "I thought your appetite would need no jump start, so I have forgone an appetizer."

Serving ourselves was a problem since no one could reach another, but Mae took the dishes around the table and it was done quickly. As she brought a dish she said what it was, although it was obvious, especially since we each had a nice menu.

Sue raved about the chicken, and thanked Mae for the artichokes, Sue's favorite. I said, "The *Phaseolus vulgaris* are cooked perfectly. How did you do it?" Mae said, "I soaked them 10 hours, then put them on cheesecloth in the dark to sprout overnight. Then rinsed them and

boiled in water to cover for ten minutes, adding hot water as needed, and simmered for an hour more. No seasoning.”

“But that would make it before I told Sue I love her.”

Mae said, “I knew you would. I started the beans even before we made that deal. I knew you couldn’t pass it up.”

Sue asked what we were talking about, and I told her the small white beans.

While Mae was walking around with the food, I said, “Your trophies look spectacular the way they are displayed. One would think they are of solid silver, or at least heavily silver-plated. This is the first time I noticed your name engraved on the gold plaque. You must be proud of them. They are magnificent!”

She said, “Thank you. Grandma had them engraved, made a place for them and put them there. It surprised me. It is wonderful to know you are loved.” She must have done that while I was in the library looking at the books, or perhaps I didn’t notice them earlier.

When the main course was finished she collected the dishes on her tray and took them to the kitchen, and proceeded to make the salad dressing at the table. She was certainly elegant. The dressing itself was simple. Olive oil, vinegar, crushed garlic, what looked like half-and-half sugar and mustard, and a coddled egg yolk. While blending the mixture, she said, “I thought no salt, not with the bacon and snails.”

Behind the bowl were small glass containers of bacon bits, chopped shiitake mushrooms soaked in white wine, green onion tops, chopped hard-cooked egg, and something I didn’t recognize. Looking at the menu I gathered they were snails, sliced thin. She first added the dressing to the barely wilted spinach, tossed that, then the other ingredients one at a time, tossing between additions. She added the heavier ingredients last. (I doubted it made any difference, and it may not have been by design.) She served us on chilled dessert plates. I had never had snails in a salad before. They were a nice addition, but salty.

All during the meal we commented on the food, but only sincere comments. The “It’s all good” attitude does not help much. It is clear that Mae is an accomplished cook and has good sense about what goes with what. My favorite was the broccoli, which can be tricky, especially sautéed. But it was tender without being mushy with a coating of some sauce I did not recognize.

Not only can she cook, but she did so without cookbooks. If she had gone to get one I would have seen her (and we might have been caught), and there were none visible in the kitchen. There would be no reason to hide one. I read cookbooks but not when I’m cooking. Nothing slows me down more than having to stop to see what’s next.

The dinner was over, and we told Mae to retire while we did dishes and cleaned the kitchen. She left. We decided to load the dishwasher and soak what was left in the big sink. I asked Sue, “What do you think of Marie now?” That just came out, the Marie instead of Mae. “I’m too tired to think. Let’s go to bed.”

To Be Continued if there is still interest

TEX / RN5 Mailbox:

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

Dec 28, Frank KR1ZAN (Collins ARC)

CQ MAGAZINE ---> Reportedly, CQ Magazine has temporarily suspended publication. The latest issue sent out was the digital version of the October issue (Volume 79 Number 10). In a message circulated over the Internet, Richard Moseson (W2VU, Editor of CQ Magazine) says that "everything is unfortunately on hold" until "the necessary funding to continue operations" is secured.

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Dec 28, Jon KZ5Z:

Been making a few CW contacts with my original HW101 and also my Ten Tec Century 21 using mostly a j38 or occasionally my EF Johnson Speedex which I rescued from the Embassy in Canberra Australia when they got rid of their HF gear. Love CW and there are so many different ways to use it, old and new. 73, Jon

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Jan 30, Ken K5RG

Still working on keeping all the balls in the air with the SDR systems. Not easy running a net, passing messages and operating a second SDR all at the same time!!

I have gotten my recently acquired DMR operational so I can participate in some emergency communications exercises. Specifically, the IEEE MOVE program which deploys fully outfitted, self-contained, communication trucks to disaster areas as needed. They use DMR primarily for internal communications among the truck support personnel most of whom are not physically located at the truck itself. The Dallas/Fort Worth area is about to get a third outfitted truck where the other two trucks are in San Diego and Raleigh, NC.

Planning on attending for the first time the Orlando Hamfest in February. Just trying to broaden my Hamfest attendance horizons.

73,
Ken K5RG

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Just to illustrate how sparse the TEX/RN5 inputs have been, if you can't send a radiogram, here is another option:

It's Valentine's Day on February 14, 2024. Click on the link below to send a Valentine's Day ecard for FREE:

https://www.123greetings.com/events/valentines_day/happy/?utm_source=efeb_valen_remail11

Thanks,
Your friends at 123Greetings

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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.

Early and late sessions continue on 80 meters along with CAN and WAN. This time of year there can be long skip propagation on the later nets, so watch out for that. I suggest you listen to the Utah Software Defined Radio for the late RN5 and TEX sessions. The direct web address is: <http://websdr1.sdrutah.org:8901/index1a.html> . You can also get there via websdr.org.

TEX CW Net Weekly Schedule

Local	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
NC 1	Open	N5RL	Open	W9VE	N5RL	No Net	KZ5Z
Backup	Open	Open	KZ5Z	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: **3541**/3593/7108 at 19:00 CT; TEX/2 **3541**/3593/1841 at 22:00 CT

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

CAN: **3552**/3590//7052/7108 - 20:30 CT; WAN: **3552**/7052 - 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

Call	Name	Location / Notes	Call	Name	Location / Notes
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:

December 2023:

Jon, KZ5Z, was first with 47 (90%), Don, W5DAE, was second place with 45 (87%), and Randy, N5RL, was third with 43 (83%), all very close. Thanks again to all who checked in.

Visitors: W1BK, Charles from MA, W0ZV, Tom from MO (now added to roster)

The complete list of stations and traffic / liaison totals are shown in the following table. Note there were 52 sessions reported out of a possible 52 (no Saturday nets). Traffic averaged 0.75 per net session (0.69 last month). Net time averaged 9.5 minutes per session (9 last month). Check-ins averaged 4.3 per session (4.1 last month).

TEX Net Statistics (December 2023)

Call	Name	QNI	Total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW
W1BK	Charles	0	1				
	MA	1					
W5CU	Sam	9	10				
*		1			1		
W5DAE	Don	26	45				
		19					
W5FEA	Jim	2	8				
*		6					
K5IX	Dave	13	24				
		11		3			
K6JT	Steve	1	15				
*		14		13	9		14
K5RG	Ken	0	2				
*		2			2		

Call	Name	QNI	Total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW
N5RL	Randy	22	43	8			
*		21					
W0ZV	Tom	11	11				
	MO	0					
W9VE	Don	13	16	4			13
		3					1
NA5YO	Doug	0	1				
		1					
KZ5Z	Jon	24	47	15	23	5	
		23		9	13	1	
Totals		224		52	48	6	28
				100%	92%	12%	54%
QTC 1		6	39				
QTC 2		23		Sessions:	52		
Time 1		268	492				
Time 2		224					

January 2024:

Jon, KZ5Z and Don, W5DAE, tied for 1st with 49 (94%), Randy, N5RL, was 2nd with 42 (81%), and Dave, K5IX, was 3rd with 27 (52%). Thanks again to all of you who checked in.

Visitors: Mike, AC5P from OK (W0ZV added to roster)

The complete list of stations and traffic / liaison totals are shown in the following table. Note that there were 52 sessions reported out of a possible 54 (no Saturdays or New Year's Eve). Traffic averaged 0.69 per net session (0.75 last month). Net time averaged 8.8 minutes per session (9.5 last month). Check-ins averaged 4.3 per session (4.3 last month).

TEX Net Statistics (January 2024)

Call	Name	QNI	Total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW
W5CU	Sam	7	8	1	1		
*		1					
W5DAE	Don	25	49				
		24					
W5FEA	Jim	1	4				
*		3					
K5IX	Dave	18	27				
		9		5			
K6JT	Steve	0	13				
*		13		13	9		13
K5KV	Benny	0	1				
		1					
W5OMR	Geoff	5	5			5	
		0					

AC5P	Mike	1	1				
	OK	0					
K5RG	Ken	0	4				
*		4			4		
N5RL	Randy	22	42	6			
*		20					
W9VE	Don	9	13	3			9
		4					2
KZ5Z	Jon	25	49	17	24	3	
	OK	24		7	12	4	
W0ZV	Tom	5	5				
	MO	0					
Totals		221		52	50	12	24
				96%	93%	22%	44%
QTC 1		4	36				
QTC 2		32		Sessions:		54	
Time 1		240	457				
Time 2		217					

Operating:

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

Note that while TTN stands for Texas Traffic Net, it is used in reporting to indicate TTN (which meets in the evening) on Early TEX for incoming traffic and the 7290 traffic net (which meets in the morning / early afternoon) on Late TEX for outgoing traffic not otherwise handled.

If conditions on 80 do exhibit skip, there is no use in trying 40 since the skip zones will be even longer there.

We handled lots of traffic on all nets above section last year. Here are the month by month results. They show improvement through the year.

2023	Region/Area and Inter-Area Traffic	Digital	Total
JAN	1310	3566	4876
FEB	1594	3879	5473
MAR	1779	4200	5979
APR	1556	4450	6006
MAY	1740	4589	6329
JUN	1434	3584	5018
JUL	1340	4672	6012
AUG	1748	4506	6254
SEP	1586	4781	6367

OCT	1565	5367	6932
NOV	1499	5037	6536
DEC	1840	5625	7465
Totals	18991	54256	73247
Averages	1582.58	4521.33	6103.92

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, close to the normal values this time of year.

Central US Nets Activity for December 2023

Net	Sessions	QTC	QNI	QTR	Rate
Day 5 th Call Area	11	42	47	60	0.700
Day 9 th Call Area	12	98	48	47	2.085
Day 10 th Call Area	12	4	66	69	0.058
Night 5 th Call Area**	52	183	173	483	0.379
Night 9 th Call Area	55	360	205	441	0.816
Night 10 th Call Area	61	85	210	444	0.191
Day Central US	12	131	106	261	0.502
Night Central US @	31	563	156	484	1.163
Day Inter-Area Traffic	36	118	36		100%
Night Inter-Area Traffic	89	256	85		96%
Total Voice/CW Nets		1840	1132	2289	
DTN Digital			Received	Sent	
KE5YTA Central Area RN5		419	221	198	
N9VC Central Area 9RN/TEN		4803	2446	2357	
Digital Stations (11)		403	77	326	
Total DTN Digital		5625			
Total Central US		7465			
@ Manager resigned, nominations open. Composite from NCS reports received					
** Nominations open for manager - thanks to NCS stations for statistics					

Central US Nets Activity for January 2024

Net	Sessions	QTC	QNI	QTR	Rate
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Net	Sessions	QTC	QNI	QTR	Rate
Day 5 th Call Area	12	36	44	56	0.643
Day 9 th Call Area	14	118	61	64	1.844
Day 10 th Call Area	14	14	80	78	0.179
Night 5 th Call Area**	52	202	182	483	0.418
Night 9 th Call Area	54	514	175	455	1.130
Night 10 th Call Area #	58	70	210	398	0.176
Day Central US	14	172	120	370	0.465
Night Central US @	31	638	163	474	1.346
Day Inter-Area Traffic	42	115	42		100%
Night Inter-Area Traffic	84	278	83		99%
Total Voice/CW Nets		2157	1160	2378	
DTN Digital			Received	Sent	
KE5YTA Central Area RN5		446	236	210	
N9VC Central Area 9RN/10RN		5021	2419	2602	
Digital Stations (12)		415	209	206	
Total DTN Digital		5882			
Total Central US		8039			
@ Manager resigned, nominations open. Composite from NCS reports received					
** Nominations open for manager, thanks to NC Stations for statistics					
# Estimate – no report received					

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. Hope the Groundhog got it right this year (early spring).

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

RN5 Corner

RRI Fifth Call Area Net (Daily) 1930 CT on **3567** and 2130 CT on **3567**

Alternate Frequency 7108 or 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 94 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 December (other than Saturdays, which remain optional). All nights except New Year's Eve (which we took off) were covered in January.

Jack K5WNU, was back on the air for part of December but was unable to participate in January. He wrote on Jan 1: I have some bad news for you guys. I've been sick and my wife has been in the hospital. She is slowly losing her sight now and will be in blind rehab at the VA Biloxi facility. I will need to drop out of service for a while. If and when things improve I will be back to help. 73, Jack K5WNU

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 December and January (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.

December: KZ5Z 17, K6JT 10, K5WNU 12, W5CU 11, WA5CAV 2

January: KZ5Z 33, W5CU 8, K6JT 9, K5RG 2

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.

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

2023/24 Statistics

MONTH	December	January
SESSIONS	52	52
QTC	183	202
QNI	173	182
QTR	483	483
AVG QTC	3.5	3.9
AVG QNI	3.3	3.5
AVG QTR	9.3	9.3

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