The Texan

Newsletter of the Texas NTS CW Net (TEX)

** See "TSN Corner" on Last Page **

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June 2008

7290 Picnic Movie

As reported last month, the 7290 picnic was held in Smithville, Texas, on May 3. There were four of us there to represent TEX – Rodney W5DY, Steve K6JT, Ken K5RG, and Pat KD5TXD. I finally completed editing and posting of the video from the picnic. Many thanks to Ken, K5RG, who did a very good job with the camera to capture the events.

If you have a broadband (i.e., anything but dial-up) Internet connection, you can view the movie once Quicktime has been installed on your computer. The link to the web page where the movie plays is: http://web.mac.com/sr_phillips/Site/Movie.html . (There is also a link from the TEX website main page). If you have a Macintosh, it will load and start playing automatically. If you have Windows (XP), and you are using Internet Explorer, you will be prompted to install Quicktime if it is not already installed. The video encoder used for the movie is H.264, and the audio is stereo AAC, which evidently Windows does not support natively. The video is at 12 frames per second, 320x240 and 17 megabytes in size, so it may take a while to download before starting to play (although it is "hinted" to allow play to start before download is complete).

Early TEX on 7120 (now 7120.5) KHz

As of June 1, Zulu, net control stations were advised to start the early TEX net on 7120 KHz at 7 PM and then move to 3552 KHz at 7:05 if it appeared that stations were not heard. Unfortunately, I was not home for the first 3 nights this started, but from the reports I received, this has not worked out very well to date. As of this writing, the only successful TEX session on 40 meters was the one just completed Wednesday evening (as I write this). All stations were good copy and KD5TXD was much stronger than on 80. I then moved the net to 80 meters at 7:06 and observed that all stations, except for AA5J, who was "skipping over" me on 40, were weaker there. As a result, let's keep trying this – start the net on 40 meters and move to 80 only if it appears copy is bad on 40. There is one other change – there was a broadcast station carrier heard on 7120, so I would like to change the "official" frequency to 7120.5 KHz.

To reiterate: Net control stations open the net on 7120.5 KHz at 1900. If conditions on 40 are poor, then go to 3552 KHz around 7:05 PM or send stations there to pass traffic if they are unable to copy each other on 40 due to weak signals.

I was also informed that on weekends, it seems that some strong Spanish speaking stations to the south of the border are using or very near 7120. If that occurs, please go UP from 7120.5 (but no higher than 7124) to avoid them. Note that as of January '07 when more than half of our 80 meter CW band was given away, 40 meter SSB also moved down to 7125.

As usual, late TEX is always on 3552.

W1NJM Saga

Thanks to Sis, WD8DIN, the editor of the "Traffic Call" newsletter of the Hit and Bounce Net (HBN – 0730 CT, 7042 KHz), for passing along George Hart's saga of the "early days". Here's Part 14 of George Hart's recollections. Geo goes to "State" and hears about Gil Crossley.

RANDOM RECOLLECTIONS OF AN OLD HAM

A journalistic history of the life and times in Amateur Radio of George Hart, W1NJM, by George Hart, W1NJM. Part 14.

PENN STATE AND COLLEGE RADIO STATION W8YA, PART ONE

My hiatus from all amateur radio lasted only a couple of weeks. During the first week at Penn State I was rushed by several fraternities and joined one, attended many Freshman Week programs, started getting acclimated to college and fraternity life (not really new to me because I was raised in the academic atmosphere at Lafayette) and started classes in the demanding pre-veterinary curriculum. Sometime during the third week I investigated the college radio station, located behind the college power plant on Burrowes Street on campus, and behind the University Club on College Avenue.

The station consisted of two small wooden buildings surrounded by three wooden towers approximately 50 ft in height. The building in the center of the three towers contained the transmitting equipment for the broadcast facility (WPSC, 500 watts, at that time not in operation) and the 250-watt amateur radio station, W8YA. The other wooden building, about the same size, had served as a studio for the broadcast station and was no longer used but still maintained.

The entire facility was approached from Burrowes Street through a small parking lot alongside the big power plant, across railroad tracks constituting a spur of the Bellefonte Central Railroad for delivery of coal to the plant, down an embankment to a boardwalk that provided entry to both of the small buildings.

I approached the problem of entry with some trepidation. I could see the towers from Burroghes Street, which was on the west side of the main campus, but how to reach them was not immediately apparent. Since I saw no "no trespassing" signs, I traversed the obstacles and went up the boardwalk. It was a warm September day and the door of the middle building was open. I entered the building timidly. Inside, in the small workshop, were two students, absorbed in crystal grinding. They paid no attention to me at first, but when I introduced myself by my call letters they grinned at each other, wiped their hands and greeted

me cordially. One was Walter Hawk, W3AJN, a senior EE from Northampton. The other was Jim Faries, W3AOA, a junior EE from a suburb of Philadelphia. Hawk looked very familiar. "Don't I know you?" he asked, looking at me closely. I remembered, then, that he had been at a couple of LVARC meetings I had attended with Ed. The ice, if indeed there had been any, was broken. Hawk gave me a tour of the facilities, while Faries went back to his crystal grinding. Crystal control was all the rage at that time, and the little workshop in the W8YA building served as a laboratory for experimenting with different cuts of quartz crystals to be used in oscillators.

At that stage of the technology, a crystal oscillator was by far the best means of providing a stable signal. I am not a technical person, but my understanding was that the quartz came primarily from Brazil and that it was cut into small squares, the thickness of which determined the frequency on which they would oscillate. But they would not oscillate unless the surfaces of the square were ultra-smooth, so once squares were cut from the block of Brazilian quartz, they had to be polished until they oscillated in a test oscillator. The thickness of the square determined the frequency on which it would oscillate, so once this was determined the crystal would be "ground down" until it oscillated on the desired frequency. This was accomplished by spreading a thin coating of carborundum on a piece of plate glass, wetting it, placing the little square of quartz on it and moving it in figure 8's with one's fingers on the glass. Every so often the crystal would be rinsed, wiped dry and placed in the oscillator to determine its frequency. This is a basic description only, possibly lacking in accuracy or correctness. There were many variations of the procedure, which we will not get into here; but crystal grinding techniques were a major part of the little workshop at W8YA, as I later found out.

During my five or six years of amateur radio exposure up to that time I had seen quite a few amateur stations, but none constructed like W8YA. "Breadboard" construction was all the rage, and W8YA was no exception, but the breadboard was not on a horizontal flat surface but mounted vertically against a wall. The tubes were mounted on little shelves on the board, other components mounted to show all connections. The board was hinged so it could be swung down and the heavier wiring behind it exposed. The oscillator, a 247 tube, was crystal controlled. This fed into an 865 buffer and then into another buffer, a 203A, and then a final 204A as a final amplifier. That was it, 250 watts input on each band. The 247 oscillator operated in the 80-meter band, exact frequency depending on which crystal was being used. Keying was done by a relay on the filament center tap of the 865 buffer stage. The two antennas strung among the three wooden towers were Windoms, fed by a single wire off center, connected through capacitors directly to the final tank coils.

Walter Hawk said he didn't approve of the antenna arrangements but this was the way the boss, a BE instructor named Crossley, wanted it. Power for the final amplifier tubes was supplied by a motor generator located in an anteroom on the other side of the building from the workshop. This was an a.c. electric motor coupled to a d.c. generator, the current from which went through a bank of filter capacitors to the final tubes. The motor generator was equipped with a brake so that when turned off, it would stop instantly and not "coast," thus creating electrostatic noise in the receiver, which was a National FB-7.

Coming in the next installment: Geo gets to key W8YA.

TEX Mailbox:

Jim, KB5W, the manager of RN5, has moved the early session to 40 meters on 7045 KHz. He writes: Starting today, May 27/28Z, we'll start using 7045 kHz (+/- QRM) for the early session, guys. Yes, I finally got a new 40 meter antenna in the air. (WHEW!) 73, Jim KB5W

Brian, N5BA, is making major renovations to his home and building a new room to be used as his shack. He sent some pictures that show there is a lot of work still remaining. Hope to hear you on again before too long, Brian.

Pat, KD5TXD, has had to switch back to using her bug due to intermittent problems with her "black widow" keyer paddle. Good to hear she hasn't lost the knack of using the bug. Don't forget that Friday late TEX is still "bug night" where we all dust off the ol' mechanical dot-makers and give them a little workout.

Pat also sent along an interesting description of the movement of the local 146.68 repeater from a tower that was all but falling down to a new one. Despite many problems related to local politics, and the probability that the old tower was being held up almost solely by the "hardline" antenna cable to the 270 ft. level of the 400 ft. tower, the move was successfully made. Check it out if you get down to the Wild Horse Desert area.

Bill, KA9IKK, is finally back on the air from Houston. He writes: Hope all is going well. Last night I was able to check in into the early Tex net using a 40m dipole about 10 to 15 ft above the ground. I fed the antenna with ladder line and was able to tune it on 80 using an MFJ tuner. I couldn't find my keyer paddle so I used the up/down buttons on my ICOM IC706 to send the dits and dahs. Just goes to show that that it doesn't always take a lot of big antennas or fancy keyers to participate on the TEX CW nets. Of course, I couldn't have done it without the great "ears" of the NCS stations and other net members. Hope to be more active on the nets. Now where did I put that keyer? 73, Bill KA9IKK.

Bill also reports: Yes, I have been able to hear you well, too. I believe the key is the NVIS set up. Keeping the dipole low to the ground (about 15 ft high) gives good coverage to a few hundred miles while blocking out more distant stations. This works great for the traffic nets since most stations are within a few hundred miles. Pat, KD5TXD, was pinning my S-meter last night at 60db over s-9 at about 216 miles away. Have also been successful checking into 7290 and RN5 on 40m during the day.

We're sure glad to have you back with us again, Bill.

Doug, KA5KLU, has resigned from all his NTS duties, effective immediately. He writes: I am resigning all my positions with NTS. The Tex NCS and RN5 duties plus the CAN RX and the FOX Sked on Tuesday night. Due to ever increasing responsibilities at home, it has become very difficult for me to make any of the nets. My mother is 83 and I need more time to take care of her. I have a son who lives at home and doesn't drive – I have been picking him up and delivering him to the bus stops.

I have been involved with NTS for around 20 years and really have enjoyed not only the nets but the great radio friendships I have encountered. CW has been almost a life time career for me. I learned CW in 1963 in San Diego, CA. while going through Radioman "A" school and

have always loved it. Especially enjoyed the cw side of NTS. Later I tried Pactor 1 and it was a good source to handle lots of traffic. It has been a ball.

I hope my home situation would change in the future where I could once again return to NTS if it is still afloat. Thank you all for the CW practice and for your friendships. I hope we can do it again sometime. God Speed, Doug//KA5KLU

In addition to the family issues noted, Doug told me his shack is not air conditioned. The brutal summer heat down in San Antonio would be enough to keep me out of the shack, too. 73 Doug, we all miss you and wish you the best.

Chuck, AA5J, has taken over Doug's two NCS slots on Thursday nights, while he is able to do so. Chuck reports that his brother is in the hospital in Little Rock at UAMS with multiple myeloma and is in pretty bad shape. So he will need to go be with his brother from time to time. In spite of some rig problems with his SDR-1000, which he reports works pretty well on SSB but is just not quite ready for CW, he has been doing a great job. Thanks, Chuck, and we all hope your brother will receive the treatment he needs and his condition will improve.

Scott, W5ESE, passed along a very interesting message received from the chief, Navy / Marine Corps MARS. Essentially, they are re-activating CW circuits. Here's the message:

DE NNN0ASA ZUJ CMB06-08:
RR NOALL
DE NNN0ASA 050
R 292200Z MAY 2008
FM CHNAVMARCORMARS WILLIAMSBURG VA
TO ALNAVMARCORMARS
INFO ZEN/CHIEF ARMY MARS FT HUACHUCA AZ
ZEN/CHIEF AIR FORCE MARS SCOTT AFB IL
BT
UNCLAS
SUBJ: CHNAVMARCORMARS BCST 06-08
A. DRAFT RADIOTELEGRAPH PROCEDURES
1. WHEN I ASSUMED THE CHIEF, NAVMARCORMARS POSITION IN NOVEMBER, 1997, WE WERE MORE THAN A YEAR INTO THE DOD MANDATED BAN ON CW ON MARS FREQUENCIES.
2. SINCE THAT TIME THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION HAS, IN STEPS, ELIMINATED THE MORSE CODE REQUIREMENT FOR AN AMATEUR LICENSE. ALL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATORS KNOW THAT WHEN VOICE AND OTHER DIGITAL MODES SLOW TO A CRAWL OR BECOME UNUSABLE, CW CAN STILL BE USED.
B. I REMEMBER THE NORTHEAST ICE STORM SHORTLY AFTER I BECAME CHIEF AND THE UNNECESSARILY LENGTHY EFFORT BY ALL OF SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND TO RECEIVE ONE VOICE EEI FROM A NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND MEMBER WHOSE ANTENNA WAS COVERED IN ICE AND LYING ON THE GROUND. IT TOOK OVER AN HOUR WHEN CW COULD HAVE HANDLED IT IN A FEW MINUTES.
1. AS MORE AND MORE OF OUR MEMBERS ENTER MARS WITH NO MORSE CODE EXPERIENCE, I AM AFRAID THAT WE WILL SOON LOSE THAT SKILL SET IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING.
2. IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE AND EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, AREA AND REGION

DIRECTORS ARE AUTHORIZED TO ESTABLISH CW TRAINING AND TRAFFIC NETS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS AND REGIONS. ALL STATE DIRECTORS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO BEGIN CONDUCTING TRAINING IN CW ON THEIR TRAFFIC AND TRAINING NETS.
3. SINCE THE RADIOTELEGRAPH PROCEDURES WERE ELIMINATED BEFORE THE PUBLICATION OF NTP 8(C), REF A WILL BE POSTED UNDER THE DOCUMENTS TAB ON THE NATIONAL WEB PAGE SOON. USE THESE DRAFT PROCEDURES UNTIL A FINAL TRI-SERVICE MARS PROCEDURE FOR RADIOTELEGRAPH IS DEVELOPED AND PROMULGATED.
4. MARS: TOGETHER WE CAN ACHIEVE ANYTHING.
BT
NNNN
DE NNN0ASA QRU AR

So there you have it. Sure good to see that the Navy shares our concerns and belief that CW is still the very best way to move traffic under poor conditions.

Pat, KD5TXD, was good enough to send in another of her famous book reports. She writes: Book Report: Pioneers of Wireless by Ellison Hawks, 1974, is a review of the people who studied and developed wireless communications. This interesting review of the scientists and experimenters illustrates the progression of their discoveries and how one person's discovery was built upon by the others like some kind of far reaching "Manhattan Project" for wireless.

An example is: William Sturgeon devises an electromagnet. Joseph Henry then takes the electromagnet, makes improvements, and makes it useful after much experimentation with Sturgeon's initial discovery. Hertz and Morse take up the efforts developing the telegraph and then signaling by conduction without wires.

Many of these great experimenters were peers of each other and were able to meet and discuss their various creations. Many had other interests than just electricity, such as Joseph Henry's study of sunspots. He determined that the sunspot was cooler than the rest of the surface of the sun.

However, I can't simply do a list of all the great inventors and scientists in this great march to wireless. I will pick one event from the book that really caught my attention. There is a step from wired communications to wireless that I didn't know about: "wired wireless". Between Morse and Marconi stands Thomas Alva Edison and Ezra Gilliland who patented a "wired wireless" system for trains in England in June of 1885. The idea was to talk to moving trains. They used the telegraph wires that ran alongside the train track and a thin metal plate attached with insulators to the inside of the train carriage. A wire connected to these surfaces was grounded through the wheels of the carriage and connected to an induction coil, a high resistance telephone, sounder and key, and a bunch of other Rube Goldberg kinds of stuff. The signal radiated to or from the telegraph wire to the train carriage. They could receive messages and send messages from the train car without touching the neighboring telegraph lines as the train rushed along the tracks.

It worked!! It was commercially installed on the Lehigh Valley Railroad in 1887. It looked like it was going to be a great success. But the commercial venture failed because once the novelty of this ability to send and receive messages while traveling on the train wore off the

profit margin quickly sank. The "wired wireless" system was removed from the trains within a few years. We have a modern day analogy to this – if you have traveled by air lately, you may have noticed that the “air telephones” that were once present on the backs of nearly every seat are now mostly gone. They were simply not used enough to pay for their maintenance, especially considering the high cost of the “air minutes” if one used the phone.

So the “wired wireless” was the in-between step. From torturing frogs to modern radio, it was a long march of science. A good book.

73!! Pat KD5TXD

TEX Net Topics

A lot of changes to the schedule this past month. With the resignation of Doug, the Tuesday slots have now become nearly all in need of a new volunteer. Thanks to Chuck, AA5J, who has stepped in from his alternate position to fill the NCS slots as primary. As noted earlier, Chuck may need to travel to Arkansas from time to time, so he will need a backup. Now all of the RN5 slots from Tuesday through Friday are open. Please, if you have the time, consider filling one or more of these slots as a regular (or even backup). Scott, W5ESE, has been filling the majority of the early RN5 liaison slots while Rodney has been filling the majority of the late RN5. We need to spread this out more, since any absence of either operator will leave us with zero coverage to the region net for the majority of the week.

RN5 has now moved the early session to 40 meters. This seems to be working well with noise levels much lower than on 80 at 7:30. The new frequencies are shown following the schedule table as “primary/secondary”. Listen first to the primary frequency listed. If nothing is heard, check the secondary frequency since NCS stations on both RN5 and CAN are allowed to move, similar to TEX. PAN also moved to 40 meters on May 11, but 3552 is still used by close-in stations to pass traffic, so late TEX should be closed by 10:30.

TEX CW Net Weekly Schedule

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

TEX/1: 7120.5/3552 at 19:00 local; TEX/2 3552 at 22:00 local
RN5/1: 7045/3567 at 19:30; RN5/2: 3567 at 21:30 local
TSN: 3552 at 19:45 local; CAN: 7052/3552 at 20:30 local; PAN: 7052/3552 at 22:30 local

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

I also heard from John, W3FAF, the new CAN manager, that CAN NCS stations may change frequency to 7052 if 80 meters is not viable, starting immediately. That had been postponed until Jim, KB5W, was able to get on 40 meters, but it should be in force by the time you read this.

Statistics:

This past month was another slow one with fewer than usual QNI and less traffic. Pat, KD5TXD, took top honors with QNI of 51 (82%), Rodney, W5DY, was second with QNI of 34 (55%). Thanks to everyone for your support.

The complete list of stations and traffic / liaison totals are shown in the following table. Traffic averaged 2.1 per net session. Net time averaged 13 minutes per session. Check-ins averaged 5 per session.

TEX Net Statistics (May 2008)

			Total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW	CTTN	TSN
Call	Name	QNI							
W5CDX	Wads	0	11						
*		11			1				
W5CU	Sam	5	10		3				
*		5			5				
W5DY	Rodney	13	34		6		3		
		21		4	13				
N5EL	Floyd	17	17						
*		0							
W5ESE	Scott	23	23	1	9			19	13
*		0							
W5GKH	Charlie	8	16	8	5				
*		8		8	4				
K5GM	Pete	3	3						
*		0							
W9GVW	Eric	6	7						
*		1							
KA9IKK	Bill	7	13						
		6							
AA5J	Chuck	6	7	1			1		
*		1		1					
K6JT	Steve	15	44	4	5		15		
*		29		12	6		29		
KA5KLU	Doug	2	3	1	1				
*		1		1	1				
K5KV	Benny	0	2						
		2							
W6LFB	Jim	2	2						
*		0							
N5NVP	Jim	9	12						
		3							
K5RG	Ken	7	24						
*		17							
KD5TXD	Pat	26	51	7		25			5
*		25		5		25			3

			Total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW	CTTN	TSN
Call	Name	QNI							
W5UFK	Ken	0	1						
*		1							
AC5Z	Bert	20	20	9					
*		0							
Totals		300		62	59	50	48	19	21
				100%	95%	81%	77%	31%	34%
QTC 1		73	128						
QTC 2		55		Sessions:		62	100%		
Time 1		499	819						
Time 2		320							

The roster, which follows, has not been updated since last month.

TEX Roster

	Call	Name	Location / Notes		Call	Name	Location / Notes
	N5BA	Brian	Houston		WA5MUF	Bill	Watauga
	W5BYQ	Earl	Houston	#	N7NET	Scott	Allen
	W5CDX	Wads	Crowley LA		AAØNI	Daniel	Oklahoma City OK
	W5CU	Sam	Edmond OK		KB5NJD	John	Duncanville
	NV5D	Martin	Allen	#	N5NVP	Jim	Scott LA
*	W5DY	Rodney	Goliad	*	N5PWG	Jay	Pasadena
	N5EL	Floyd	Temple		K5RDW	RD	Vilonia AR
*	W5ESE	Scott	Dripping Springs		K5RG	Ken	Houston
	AA7FY	Mark	Fort Worth		W5ROK	Steve	Richardson (K6JT)
	W5GKH	Charlie	West Columbia		KC5T	Bob	Houston
	K5GM	Pete	Austin		W5TFB	Jack	College Station
	W9GVW	Eric	San Antonio		W5TV	Tom	Nacogdoches
	KA9IKK	Bill	Houston	*	KD5TXD	Pat	Kingsville
	AA5J	Chuck	Plano		AI6U	Chris	Sacramento (CA)
	KJ9J	Newt	Pharr TX (winter)	#	W5UFK	Ken	College Station
*	K5JRN	Si	Denton	*	K5UN	Lee	Leonard
	K6JT	Steve	Plano		KS5V	Ed	Bulverde
	KA5KLU	Doug	San Antonio		K5WQG	Eddy	Tomball
	K5KV	Benny	Star	#	KM5YQ	David	Irving
	W6LFB	Jim	Denton	*	AC5Z	Bert	Nacogdoches (Lufkin)

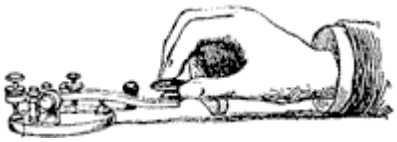
Not Capable of operating in 3600-3700 band; * Capable of 160 meter operation

Operating:

Rodney reminded me of the "TTN policy" that we used to follow: Whoever checked into late TEX as TTN rep was responsible for taking all traffic that did not clear. I modified that policy some time back (as well as adding 7290 and other nets to the "TTN" designation) to the following: The TTN rep on late TEX should volunteer to take any traffic where experience shows there will likely be an outlet on the voice nets. There is no "take all the dregs" policy. Related to that, what do you all think of having an "Early TEX" slot where the volunteer would take leftover traffic to early TEX the next night? It would be "ETEX" or just "ET" ☺

Until next month,
73, Steve

(TSN Corner appears on the next page)



TSN Corner

Texas Slow Net (Daily) 1945 CT 3552.0 KHz
http://www.geocities.com/scottamcmullen/Texas_Slow_Net.html
Scott McMullen W5ESE
TSN Net Manager

Here is a roster of stations that have participated in the Slow Net in recent months.

Net Stations (QNS) April 2008

Call	Name	City	State	Call	Name	City	State
K0CMH	Craig	St. Louis	MO	WB5NKD	Pat	Oklahoma City	OK
W5DY	Rodney	Goliad	TX	N5NVP	Jim	Scott	LA
N5EL	Floyd	Temple	TX	K5RDW	RD	Vilonia	AR
W5ESE	Scott	Dripping Springs	TX	KI5T	Wade	Walker	LA
WD0ESF	Mike	Medicine Lodge	KS	KB5TCH	Carroll	Douglassville	TX
AG9G	Dwight	Phillips	WI	KD5TXD	Pat	Kingsville	TX
AA5J	Chuck	Plano	TX	AD5VC	Dana	Baton Rouge	LA
AA5JW	Carl	Stafford	TX	N5XGG	Joe	Colmesneil	TX
K5KV	Benny	Prarieville	LA	KM5YQ	David	Irving	TX
KD5MMM	Phil	Fentress	TX	AC5Z	Bert	Nacogdoches	TX
WB5NKC	Arley	Oklahoma City	OK				

Field Day

If you read the TSN newsletter a year ago, you will remember that I encouraged net participants to take part in Field Day. I apologize for the redundancy, but I'm going to make a similar pitch again this year. Field Day 2008 occurs this year on June 28-29. The Field Day rules make bonus points available for originating a message to your Section Manager or Section Emergency Coordinator, and also 10 bonus points for each message originated, relayed, or delivered, up to a maximum of 10 radiograms. All the messages must be in the ARRL standard format. Feel free to bring any of your Field Day traffic to TSN. Your messages can be a simple greeting, and addressed to anyone, including other net participants. If you don't otherwise have Field Day plans, you can use a locator service on the ARRL's web site at: http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/locator.php to find a Field Day station near your home. I am planning to participate from KE5LOT, the Hays Caldwell ARC, near San Marcos.

May Activity Report
TOTAL SESSIONS 31
TOTAL CHECKINS 113
TOTAL TRAFFIC 31
BY 11 DIFFERENT STATIONS

The telegraph key image is courtesy of FCIT