

The Texan

Newsletter of the Texas CW Traffic Net (TEX)

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

Net Manager: Position Open (W5DY resigned due to poor health)

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Assistant Manager: Position open



September-October 2021

Pfeiffer Pfist Award and 7290 Picnic

Congratulations to Ken, K5RG, who is the recipient of the 2021 Pfeiffer Pfist award. Ken first went to see Pete, K5GM, who has had the award since 2018, to pick up the award to carry to the 7290 Picnic on Saturday, Oct 2. Here is a picture of Pete and Ken at Pete's house,



exchanging the award. Jo Ann, KA5AZK, formally presented the award to Ken at the 7290 Picnic meeting later that day.

Ken has been active in traffic handling since the 1960s and has been active on TEX for decades now, first as W5UGE. He was first licensed in 1960 and has held the calls K1ONW, W4VLH, and W5UGE before requesting K5RG, which is actually comprised of his initials (Kenneth R Goodwin).

Ken was the Route Manager for South Texas (1975 – 1978) (now called the Section Traffic Manager). He was Chairman and Member-at-Large National Traffic System Central Area Staff (1982 - 1986), CAN Cycle 4 NCS since 1970, TCC Appointment since 1970, and NTS participant since 1961. Ken received his first BPL Medallion in 1963 (awarded after achieving BPL 3 times).

He operates all modes from 1.8 – 1290 MHz including digital modes Pactor 1-3, VARA, Packet & Telnet, is a Life Member of the Quarter Century Wireless Association and also a Life Member of the Old Old Timers Club.

The following is a picture of Jo Ann, KA5AZK, presenting the Pfeiffer Pfist award to Ken on behalf of TEX and the 7290 Traffic Net. Thanks, Jo Ann.



Also from Jo Ann: We had a really good time at the picnic, would have hoped more folks could have made it but think it was a good turn out considering everything. Next year we will be moving back to Beyersville outside of Taylor on October 29. Hopefully that will be a good date for everyone. We took a vote on the when and where and most agreed on the place and the month. They have rebuilt the building at Beyersville after the fire and it is a little larger and looks very nice now. Thank you for letting us be a part of the CW Net in this way.

Excerpt from Jack, W5TFB's Book

Here is the next excerpt from Jack's book. Jack finally meets with Sue and fits right in with some interesting recipes and cooking (yes, Jack actually did know how to cook very well). You may find you feel hungry after reading some of his cooking descriptions.

Sunday 18 November

The rooster woke me. It was about 7. I had slept well in the car. They don't make them like this any more. John came out and said, "Put them tires on the Packard." I'm not making this up, he actually ordered me to do it.

I said, "Yes sir, right away, but where are they?"

"You don't know? They must be where you put them." This guy was a real fruitcake. Suddenly, seeing him discredited was not going to be funny, and I had to undo that, but first we had to find the tires.

I said, "Master John, my memory jist are not what it were. Do you think I might have put them in the barn? Is there anyone else who knows the place good? Like Mae?" He turned almost red, only darker and blotchy.

“Keep away from Mae, boy, she’s mine.”

“Yes sir, I know, but can you ask her? I feel real bad about losing your tires, and since y’all are not paid me for three months I got no money. You promised me \$400 a month, with a bonus of another \$400 if I got the Packard running good. Don’t you think my memory would kick in just good as new if you paid me my due? It’s only \$1,600, and I know you got more than that. You know all about my grandson with leukemia, who needs treatment with money that you promised.”

John said, “Well, OK, I’ll go git the money, but you better find them tires. Hey, git Mae to help you, she’s good at findin’ things.” To this day I still wonder if I could have got twice that, but it was enough, surely enough for teaching this man about mechanical chokes. He needed, more than anything, a success, just anything, and he was going to get one. I admit that this money thing was a pure shot in the dark.

He came back with the money, all in hundreds. I counted it quickly, \$2,400. I told him thanks, stuffed it in my pocket, and went to the barn. I guess he added the \$400 bonus to each of three months. Or maybe he couldn’t count and just grabbed a handful of money. I wondered where it came from.

Brenda emerged from the house. I asked about Mae and she told me Mae sleeps late when she can. She said Sue wants to see me for real, and she is in the kitchen getting breakfast for everyone. Brenda told me I would have to help with the dishes, and I lied, saying I love doing dishes and even drying them and putting them up if someone can help me with where they go. I asked her if she knew where the tires to the Packard were, and she said no, but Mae did. She might show me after she got up. She said Sue and Mae would be going back to New Iberia after lunch.

I asked, “Could I prepare a special birthday luncheon for Sue? I cook.” Brenda: “What would you cook?” I outlined a menu:

Appetizer: Fresh crab, seasoned with only lemon, salt, and pepper, about three ounces a serving. Wine, a sauterne. Main course: Roast duck, with a sharp brown sauce from the giblets and aromatic vegetables. Broccoli with lemon and brown butter. Hot rolls. Wine, a Burgundy, from a good year, 96 if possible.

Dessert: A grand birthday cake, must consult the birthday girl as to her preferences, It should be rich and messy to eat. Wine, a fine French Champagne.

Brenda said, “That would take six, maybe eight, hours to prepare. You would need all-purpose flour dry yeast skim milk brown sugar heavy cream eggs, lightly beaten, two five pound ducks. The wine you call for is easily three hundred dollars, especially the Burgundy, perhaps twice that, and I don’t know what you mean by ‘fine French Champagne.’ You can get all the food locally, all fresh, the crab actually alive, but it is not cheap. I assume you want fresh, never frozen duck?”

“I would prefer to have the duck cleaned and packaged. I have never dressed a fresh duck, although I have plucked many a chicken. It would be better if Sue were here for her birthday feast, so time is a consideration. And it may not take that long. The appetizer is trivial if the

crab is fresh, the duck is too if you perform some minor surgery before cooking. It just amounts to severing the ball joints from inside. Makes it easy to carve, which will not be done at table anyway. After we discover Sue's preference, the cake can be made in a flash. I think it can be done in two hours if you are willing to help."

Brenda said she never knew a man who said he loved doing dishes. "What should I do now?" "Shop. I have made a short list. I think the liquor stores open at ten, so someone else may make that trip. Perhaps Sue herself." I handed her two hundreds.

Brenda said I'm just trying to impress her about the money this all costs. I said the equivalent of BS, and you have work to do, and I have to figure out your kitchen, so scat.

The whole meal can easily be prepared in under three hours after the shopping is done, and one glance told me the kitchen was just fine. Without the rolls needing to rise, less than two. There was an old stand mixer with a rotary control at the back, plenty of fresh eggs and cream and standard staples no matter what cake Sue preferred. Even two types of solid chocolate, and an unopened coconut. There were lemons and limes, carrots and celery, evidently those fresh from a garden I hadn't seen. Onions on the counter by the sink, also from the garden. I again told Brenda to scat. I wanted Sue alone, to take my punishment, to know her again if she would have it. Our connection was asymmetrical, for I never thought about her as someone to more than admire, and she told me she loved me. I now know what that meant, but too late.

I started on the rolls. The mixer worked, but I did them by hand. They are usually lighter if you don't develop the gluten more than necessary. Anyway, the mixer didn't have a dough hook. It was a Sunbeam just like Eileen Gray's, probably 60 years old or more. Here is what I put in the batter:

3 ½ C all-purpose flour
1 pkg dry yeast
½ C skim milk
½ C brown sugar
¾ C heavy cream
2 eggs, lightly beaten

I thought back: it took me longer to learn how to make rolls than bread. I made the dough and covered it to let rise. Then did the dishes, dried and ready to put up.

I went into the dining room, connected to the kitchen by a swinging door. A place was set, I supposed for me. I am not good at eating last meals, but she said, "Sit. Eat." It was simple. Grits, scrambled eggs, biscuits. I silently thanked her for no sausage or bacon. The grits were good, the scrambled eggs what you would expect, not at all good but edible, but the biscuits were light and fluffy and not even a little salty. I raved about them and asked if there were more. "No. I had to take these off the table else John would eat them. I guess you want to know how I make them. Everyone does, but after I tell them they say that won't work, and they don't try it."

"I know what you did, I just don't know the timing. After you added the yeast to the batter, how long did you wait before adding the baking powder and more flour? And how many eggs? In a

pastry like this it all centers around the egg. For each egg, what do you add? I can guess, a half cup each of milk and flour. What else? I would guess you add a little water, per egg, about a T, with the yeast, let it rise until almost double, then add 1 t of baking powder and more flour to make a dough you can roll out.”

“You haven’t changed a bit. That’s about it, I let it little more than double, but I never measure anything. Why didn’t you answer my letters?”

“There were no letters, not one. I couldn’t find out where you were. Those were paranoid times. What’s the matter with John? He seems not all here.” I was really trying to steer the conversation into the present. Sue didn’t bite.

“But I wrote you a letter every day. I gave them to daddy who said he could mail them APO NY for the same cost as a US letter, and they would arrive faster.”

There was nothing to add, so I didn’t. After I would guess two minutes, I said, “I’m sorry. I was going through many changes myself and you were the only friend I had. I was desperate to talk to you. I would have given anything to get a letter from you, or just have your address. I tried everything. I knew a lot of men in the Navy and Air Force, and they couldn’t find your father. They tried extra hard because they were worried too, and they knew I always told the exact truth. The men in the Navy had taught me how to send and receive Morse Code and the company I worked for had a service contract for all of the avionics at Shepherd Field; I did most of the work because I had all the FCC licenses one needed. They didn’t care if I looked like I was 12. Could I have some milk?”

Sue told me it’s on the top shelf left side in the icebox. She was pale, as if realizing something horrible. I thought I knew what but she had to bring it up if she wanted to talk about it. I returned with the biggest glass I could find full of milk. It was skim milk. “Brenda takes off the cream and uses it to cook with mostly. Brenda used to make butter but the old cow doesn’t make as much cream as she used to. I sent a letter every day for over a year, even after we were transferred to England. I guess daddy didn’t mail them.

“John has always been not all here. When Brenda was 17 she got mixed up with some bad people and got pregnant. It was a lot of men so she didn’t know who the father was. Daddy kicked her out and she got by somehow, mostly by staying boozed up. I gave her food and all the money I could get. She had John, I never knew when or where. I don’t think Brenda knows.

“After daddy retired from the Air Force, mommy and daddy were recruited by the CIA, mainly because of their excellent German, to go undercover in East Germany. Brenda and I were sent to a boarding school. Then some man from the CIA took us out of school. We were never told anything, but they gave Brenda and me a lot of money and moved us to Lafayette where Daddy’s older sister lived. I didn’t know her, and she had no use for kids, but we were fed and stayed warm. I learned a few years ago they were arrested in Dresden.

“I found I had some sense about money, and power over men, although it didn’t work with you. Maybe I didn’t have it then.”

I told her I wasn’t a man yet.

"If only all reasons could be as good. I met men who did real estate, and I learned I could leverage my money almost fifty to one, and buy property, mostly raw land paying interest only from distress situations, bank auctions, divorces, later partnerships that are dissolving with lots of legal expense, especially those. And so you could buy a section for less than fifty thousand on a good day, paying interest only. With full mineral rights."

I didn't ask her, but she told me anyway. "My net worth is a little under 33 million. I'm out of real estate now, mostly in oil and gas, with about a million in tax-free bonds as a cushion. I'll be OK, and I help with Brenda and John. Marie has no clue about the money, but she's a good girl and does well in school. I own this run down old place, which my geophysicist says is sitting on a salt dome, so there is oil and probably gas, but it'll keep. I heard you and my sister talking about food and stuff. I don't feel like wine, but the crab, duck, and vegetables sound good. I don't have to be back by any certain time but I need to be there Monday morning. And if I ate cake with Champagne often I'd weigh two hundred pounds. Would you like to go back to New Iberia with us tonight?"

One thing hadn't changed. She still didn't know a paragraph from a paragon. I guess someone worth that much money didn't need to make paragraphs any more. Perhaps she wasn't still working on building her fortune. I was trying to decide, actually resisting it, but when the silence was turning awkward I just said, "I better go do the dishes. There aren't many." Sue said she was going to take a nap. I would guess that the realization that her dad had deceived her was a big blow, one that will take a while to get over.

Mae came in. She looked good enough to eat in her cut-offs and halter top, barefoot. I asked, "May I make you breakfast? I understand how the kitchen works and the pantry is ample. Do you know anything about the Packard tires? John wants me to put them on."

"No, I'll just have some milk. After that let's get the tires. There is an X-shaped lug nut tool in the trunk. The lug nuts are on the wheels. The car was jacked and put on blocks so the tires will be easy to put on. We won't need Uncle Johnny; he would just be in the way."

There wasn't anything to do until Brenda returned, so when she finished we went to do the tires. I asked if she didn't need shoes and she said no but put them on anyway. Meanwhile I put the hand brake on and put it in first gear to keep the wheels still. Mae was right, and she had arranged it so that the weight of the car was resting on the 2 by 6 with the concrete blocks inside the bumpers the car was resting on, so if you jacked up, say, the front, then the front end of the 2 by 6 would stay with the bumper and you could just ease the front concrete blocks out. Same way with the back. They had a serious roll-around jack that worked on the dirt if you put it on something solid. Mae used a 2 by 10 about two feet long. There was nothing wrong with her brain. We finished putting everything up just as Brenda returned.

After I washed, we unpacked the groceries, and put the crab on ice, covered, in the icebox. Brenda had found fresh raspberries which had no bad spots. I was going to make orange and raspberry duck if she could find nice raspberries, with a fallback brown sauce. She got two ducks, each close enough to 5 pounds, and at least a quart of raspberries. "How long does your sister sleep when she has a nap?" She said Sue never goes back to bed in the morning, and I told Brenda she might need some rest or at least alone time. I asked her to spread the berries on a big cookie sheet, sprinkle with a cup of granulated sugar. While she was doing

that I washed the ducks, dried them, severed the ball joints from the inside, tied the legs and wings and pinned the neck skin back. The oven was at 400° and I put the ducks breast side up on a rack in a preheated roasting pan, and slid it in the oven, uncovered. The pan was too small for two so I lined the lid with foil to hold the other duck. When steady sizzling noises started in the oven, I reduced temperature to 300°. (Actually, I go by smell, but that is impossible to describe.) They would roast about 2 more hours.

Meanwhile, we made the sauce. I cooked while she fetched.

A Medium Heavy Saucepan with Lid

1C Orange Juice

1C Chicken stock

¼ C Brandy

Combine in the saucepan and bring to boil. Reduce to 1 C. I asked her to find some nuts, sliver them, and put them on a cookie sheet and into the oven. She had walnuts and almonds, and I said, "Then walnuts. You can just chop them fairly fine, they don't sliver."

Add 1 C of the raspberries, and ginger and walnuts. While simmering, mash with something like a potato masher. I used a pine 2 by 4 scrap end, not finding a potato masher. Reduce heat to lowest point possible over the slowest burner, fold in the remaining raspberries, unmashed, and sage, cover tightly, gently stirring now and then.

Make the crab appetizer (Brenda did this). Toss the crabs into boiling salted water, return to boil, remove and cool to allow removing meat. Make a simple sauce of lemon and pepper (she used cayenne and ground white pepper, ¼ t each). Cool in icebox if desired, or serve warm. Brenda obviously knew her way around a crab.

When the duck is done (wiggle a leg), remove to stovetop. Let rest 15 minutes. Meanwhile, increase oven to 400° and, when at temperature, put in risen rolls. Steam bite size broccoli flowerets until tender, knead 4 T softened butter with 3 T flour, melt in warm skillet, increase heat to brown the flour, but not to burn the solids in the butter.

(This is tricky. You have to watch it. By the time you smell anything it is burned. You can still eat it, but it won't be as good as when it tastes like toasted butter. A work-around is to use clarified butter in the first place).

We shared the cooking, but I knew the Cajun way of making a dark roux, which would not work, so I browned the butter-flour. Have the juice and zest of one lemon at simmer and whisk in all at once. The sauce will be thick. If too thick add boiling water a few drops at a time. Pour over broccoli on heated serving dish and keep hot. Nothing I know loses its heat faster than broccoli. Serve the crab appetizer while carving the first duck, arrange duck on dinner plates, and set on table. Pass remaining raspberry sauce separately and serve a basket of hot rolls and the seasoned hot broccoli. Carve the second duck and pass this on a warm serving platter. Add rolls to basket as needed (it was).

It was a simple lunch, but seemed to please everyone, even John. Sue had two additional servings of the duck, and we ran out of two dozen oversized rolls, as well as the broccoli and raspberry sauce. There was about enough leftover duck to make a couple of sandwiches.

Mae and John cleared the table while I broke up the bones and started making stock, tossing in chopped celery, carrot, and onion, skin and all, and liquid from deglazing the roasting pans, as well as the remains of the crabs and the water in which they were cooked. When everything was cleared away and stacked in the kitchen, I ran everyone out so I could do dishes. I really dislike doing a few dishes, but when you have a modest quantity it is fun to plan everything and do it efficiently and well. The way I do it another person would just be in the way. They had a three basin sink. In a restaurant kitchen, one has hot water with a couple drops of bleach, but I used them as a degreasing wash, a slightly soapy rinse, and then a final rinse in the largest sink. It took about 20 minutes, then I went and got Mae and John to dry and put up. The roasting pans were still soaking. There was no mess except a little grease in the oven that always splatters when you roast fowl, especially a fat one like domestic duck, so I cleaned the oven. There was some aerosol foam Easy-Off that I had never used before. I was impressed. While applying the foam I wondered how Mae fit into all of this. She was obviously Sue's granddaughter. Probably Mae's mother was Sue's daughter, So where is the mother? And father? Her statement "Oh, they be dead" does not seem to me to be enough. If I need to know I will. For now it is enough that there is Mae who loves her grandmother. Probably more relevant is where is Sue's husband, if there were one? And are there any Mae siblings or other aunts and uncles? All this has nothing to do with me, except that it is in me, the need to know, or, if you prefer, the curiosity.

When the kids were finished and the foam was working I took John out and showed him the choke and told him what it did and how to handle it. If he was surprised to see the tires on the Packard he didn't show it, and I didn't expect him to. I also told him he will need to go to an auto parts store and buy a gasoline additive that will let the car run on unleaded gas without burning the valves and perhaps piston heads. Brenda and Mae came out and he asked if they wanted to take a spin. I told Mae to make sure he goes by the gas station to check the pressure in the tires.

I went back in the house. Sue was up sitting at the table. She had a far-away look, one new to me, or was it? No, that is the look she has when she is working hard on a math problem, but I doubted it was a math problem. I silently went back through the swinging door and, using wet paper towels, wiped the dirty foam off the oven. It looked a lot better. While I was halfway inside the oven Sue came in and asked if I wanted her to turn on the gas. I wiggled my way out, gathered the dirty paper up and disposed of it, washed my hands, and told her she could now. "Have you solved the problem you were working on?"

Without answering, she asked, "How long will you be here? Do you still live in Wichita Falls?"

"I have to return to Lethe's place for my car and other stuff, but I'm free otherwise. It's an easy hour long walk. I live near College Station."

"I could drive you to Lethe's. That would give us more time. I would like to leave when Marie gets back. I'm all ready to go. If you would like you can follow me back here, then talk about New Iberia. It isn't far, about 20 miles. I have asked you before."

I said, "It would be nice to go with you. I need to call the person who is taking care of my dog and tell her." She handed me her cell phone and I called Agnes and left a message. I returned the device.

“OK, let’s fetch my car.”

She had a car in an attached garage I hadn’t really noticed. It was a dark green 71 Datsun 240-Z. A few little dents and scratches, but the inside was clean and it ran well. She didn’t need much in the way of directions, just point it out when we arrive. She handed me her cell phone and told me to call so Lethe would know I was coming. So I did that. We arrived in less than a minute after I finished telling Lethe.

Lethe met us on the porch. She was sitting on the porch swing. She was wearing a faded flowery housecoat and looked really tired. I introduced the two, and we went inside.
“Jack, what am I going to do?”

I told her she would survive, she always has. (This is true: She had two children, boys who died of cystic fibrosis, Hank at age 15 and David at 21. David was the first kid in the US with cystic fibrosis to graduate from college. Hank was bitter and fought against it, but David just accepted it, learned as much as he could, and spent his time when not on pure O2 studying, not always what was for school. They both died in Lafayette, David three weeks after he graduated from USL with honors, in chemistry. He wanted to go to medical school. Throughout all of this Lethe kept the family together, even though she couldn’t stand her husband Cliff who had turned into a right-wing nut. Cliff was a close friend at A&M, a graduate student when I came back from Rice. After he graduated he got a post at USL teaching math. We kept in touch, mostly through my monthly newsletter to former students and associates who had left. I quit doing that in 72. No one seemed to care any more.)

I didn’t ask what Cliff died of and no one told me. Isn’t it enough that he is dead? If I kept track of what people I know died from that would be all I did. I gave Lethe the best hug I have. I had parked the Honda down the driveway. Lethe thanked me for all my help and asked if we were hungry. Sue said, louder than necessary, “No!” I explained, “I just cooked her a birthday luncheon. She enjoyed three helpings of roast duck with raspberry sauce.”

Lethe, who knows I cook, just nodded. My stuff was behind the couch I slept on the first night. We left, Sue going first, and I followed. I didn’t try to keep up with her. We had to go back and get Mae.

To Be Continued

TEX / RN5 Mailbox:

Please send in your feedback, gripes, and suggestions. The mailbox has been nearly empty since the last newsletter. Here are a few inputs.

Aug 15: Tom, **K4VIZ**, sent this along. Interesting crystal sets shown at:

<http://crystalreceiver.co.uk/>

And so ends yet another day without me becoming unexpectedly wealthy or beamed up to the Enterprise. Nice to be here. Don’t take life too serious. It ain’t no how permanent. (Pogo)
73, Tom

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12 Sep: From Jack, **K5WNU**:

We are somewhat back to normal. Only lost power for about 12 hours and no damage to any of the property. However, I dropped my ant to keep it from breaking when the trees swayed. It didn't break but the wind tangled it around my chimney and in an oak tree. I don't do roof work anymore, too old. My young neighbors have offered to help. They got it untangled off the roof but still up in the oak tree and one of the lines that hold it in place managed to break. We need a longer ladder to repair all this stuff. They both work in construction so when they can get one of the real tall ladders I should be back it business. Sorry for the delay. Will keep you posted on how things are going.

73, Jack

As of this writing (Oct 15) Jack is still without a working antenna

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Sep 16: Ken, **K5RG**, in response to an email from Sam, W5CU about how much time it was taking to pass traffic when conditions were poor and he could not check into cycle 4 nets. Reflects some interesting thoughts:

1. First you shouldn't spend two hours attempting to pass traffic – that is not the NTS model. Check in/check out – 15 minutes
2. Note that 7290 is not a traffic net per se and has no scheduled interfaces since it operates on the crap-shoot model. It is a great net but it is essentially a social gathering.
3. It is getting to the point that if Cycle 4 has no regular outlets, we shouldn't be attempting to handle the traffic, especially traffic of a non-personal nature. That is why God invented the Internet.
4. If I can't handle the traffic in a somewhat normal manner, I find that it has a tendency to slip off my desk.

73, Ken K5RG

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Oct 5: Dean, **W8IM**, wrote: Here's an article on the coast CW station WPA and other port of Houston news. Thought might be good for you to share with the Texas gang and possibly some of the ex WPA ops are still on the ham traffic nets down there.

73 Dean W8IM

Dean sent an attached file that I will be happy to forward to anyone that wants it. It is about the Port of Houston in 1964. Several interesting articles including one about the operation of WPA. The station, run by RCA, handled more than 28,000 telegrams each year back then.

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Received a list of VE3GNA standard texts from Sam, **W5CU**, and a set of NX9K/N9VC standard texts from Steve, **N9CK**. If you want or need them, I can forward to you.

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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, please advise so the schedule may be updated. Note that early RN5, CAN, and WAN have all moved back to 80 meters as described below the schedule. Missing coverage for 2 NCS slots and 4 RN5/1 and 1 RN5/2 slot.

TEX CW Net Weekly Schedule

Local	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
NC 1	W5FEA	N5RL	W5FEA	N5RL	N5RL	No Net	Open
Backup	Open	Open	K5GM	W5FEA	Open	No Net	W5FEA
NC 2	K5GM	K6JT	K6JT	K6JT	K5GM	No Net	Open
Backup	Open	W5FEA	Open	Open	Open	No Net	W5FEA
RN5 1	N5RL	Open	K5GM	Open	Open	No Net	Open
Backup	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	No Net	Open
RN5 2	W5CU	K6JT	K5RG	K6JT	K5GM	No Net	Open
Backup	Open	Open	W5CU	Open	Open	No Net	Open

TEX/1: **3541**/7106/3593 at 19:00 CT; TEX/2 **3541**/3593/1841 at 22:00 CT

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

TSN: **3570** - 19:45 CT; CAN: **3552**/7052/3590/7108 - 20:30 CT; WAN: **3552**/7052 - 22:30 CT

RN5 Backup: K5GM, K5RG, N5RL

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

TEX Roster

Call	Name	Location / Notes	Call	Name	Location / Notes
KW5AS	Skip	Victoria	WA5MS	Marty	Argyle
N5BA	Brian	Houston	* W6LFB	Jim	Denton
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	K9NY	Bill	Canyon Lake
W5DY	Rodney	Goliad	K1PKZ	Paul	Tom Bean
W5ESE	Scott	Dripping Springs	WA5PRI	Don	Thibodaux LA
* W5FEA	Jim	Graham	* K5RG	Ken	Houston
K5GM	Pete	Austin	N5RL	Randy	San Antonio
W9GVW	Eric	Silent Key	KD5RQB	Jason	Atlanta
KM0I	John	Hattiesburg MS	W5TMO	Mike	Austin
KA9IKK	Bill	Katy	K5TSK	Hank	Pearcy AR
K5IX	Dave	Brackettville	KD5TXD	Pat	Kingsville
K5JFB	Jim	Fort Worth	W9VE	Don	Dallas
K6JT	Steve	Plano	WB8WKQ	Jeff	Michigan

* Capable of 160 meter operation

Statistics:

August 2021:

Jim, W5FEA, and Don, W5DAE, tied for first place with 50 (96%), Rodney, W5DY, was 2nd with 41 (79%), and Randy, N5RL, was third with 38 (73%). Thanks again to all of you who checked in.

Visitors: Good to see Benny, K5KV, check in again after several years' absence.

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 2.5 per net session (2.5 last month). Net time averaged 12.9 minutes per session (11.8 last month). Check-ins averaged 4.8 per session (4.8 last month).

TEX Net Statistics (August 2021)

Call	Name	QNI	Total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW	TSN
W5CU	Sam	2	11		2			
*		9			9			
W5DAE	Don	26	50					
		24						
W5DY	Rodney	20	41					
		21						
W5FEA	Jim	26	50	13	1	26		
*		24		5		24		
K5GM	Pete	4	23	1	4			
*		19		9	4			
K5IX	Dave	6	8					
		2						
K6JT	Steve	0	12					
*		12		12	8		12	
K5KV	Benny	1	2					
		1						
KB5NJD	John	1	1				1	
		0						
K5RG	Ken	0	5					
*		5			4			
N5RL	Randy	21	38	12	4			
*		17						
W9VE	Don	10	10				10	
		0						
Totals		251		52	36	50	23	0
				100%	69%	96%	44%	0%
QTC 1		6	130					
QTC 2		124		Sessions:		52		

Call	Name	QNI	Total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW	TSN
Time 1		252	671					
Time 2		419						

September 2021:

Don, W5DAE, was 1st with 50 (96%), Jim, W5FEA, was 2nd with 46 (88%), and Randy, N5RL, was 3rd with 44 (85%). Thanks again to all of you who checked in for your support.

Visitors: None

The complete list of stations and traffic / liaison totals are shown in the following table. Note that there were 50 sessions reported out of a possible 52 (no Saturdays). Traffic averaged 2.4 per net session (2.5 last month). Net time averaged 12.2 minutes per session (12.9 last month). Check-ins averaged 4.8 per session (4.8 last month).

TEX Net Statistics (September 2021)

Call	Name	QNI	Total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW	TSN
N5BA	Brian	1	1					
		0						
W5CU	Sam	0	7					
*		7			6			
W5DAE	Don	24	50					
		26						
W5DY	Rodney	16	34	1	3			
		18		1	1			
W5FEA	Jim	21	46	10	1	21		
*		25		5		25		
K5GM	Pete	5	17		4			
*		12		6	3			
K5IX	Dave	6	7					
		1						
K6JT	Steve	0	14					
*		14		14	9		14	
K5RG	Ken	0	7					
*		7			6			
N5RL	Randy	22	44	13	4			
*		22				1		
W9VE	Don	14	14				14	
		0						
Totals		241		50	37	47	28	0
				96%	71%	90%	54%	0%
QTC 1		7	122					
QTC 2		115		Sessions:		52		
Time 1		242	612					
Time 2		370						

Operating:

Note the time changes back to standard on November 7. As usual, TEX will continue to start at the same local time (1 hour later UTC) when that happens.

Some weaker signals have been observed on late TEX, indicating propagation may be lengthening out. 40 meters is now going "long" around the time CAN starts, and that will continue to be earlier as we get closer to winter. Hoping that there will be enough sunspots to keep 80 working reliably for both sessions of TEX, even after the time change.

Not sure what is going to happen on Wednesday evenings for late TEX when the time changes. The CWOPS contest seems to have moved their frequency away from 3541. Their website says it is 0300Z to 0400Z (2200 to 2300 CDT, 2100 to 2200 CST), so with daylight time, it conflicted with late TEX until they changed something that is not announced on the website. There should be no problem on standard time other than the few stragglers whose clocks aren't set accurately.

The Thursday contest from another group is over at 0300Z, so that won't be a problem on standard time. There are currently only stragglers that are finishing up when late TEX starts.

Here are the composite reports for the last 2 months for traffic handled at the region and above levels. Totals have been going down since July.

Central US Nets Activity for August 2021

Net	Sessions	QTC	QNI	QTR	Rate
Day 5 th Call Area	13	26	53	73	0.356
Cycle 2 9RN*	13	240	68	60	4.000
Day 10 th Call Area #	13	28	59	75	0.373
Night 5 th Call Area**	45	128	173	421	0.304
Night 9 th Call Area	56	399	237	498	0.801
Night 10 th Call Area	61	63	183	303	0.208
Day Central US	13	99	70	235	0.421
Night Central US @	31	695	183	570	1.219
Day Inter-Area Traffic	39	71	37		95%
Night Inter-Area Traffic	76	275	75		99%
Total Voice/CW Nets		2024	1138	2235	
DTN Digital			Received	Sent	
WB9FHP Central Area HUB		4092	1802	2290	

Net	Sessions	QTC	QNI	QTR	Rate
KE5YTA Alternate Hub		191	129	62	
Digital Stations (14)		1259	337	922	
Total DTN Digital		5542	2268	3274	
Total Central US		7566			
* Not Radio Relay International affiliated					
# Manager recovering - thanks Dave, ND0CW, and Ron, WB9WKO for their reports					
@ Manager resigned, nominations open. Composite from NCS reports received					
** Nominations open for manager - thanks to NCS stations for statistics					

Central US Nets Activity for September 2021

Net	Sessions	QTC	QNI	QTR	Rate
Day 5 th Call Area	12	49	47	73	0.671
Cycle 2 9RN*	13	188	61	57	3.298
Day 10 th Call Area #	12	20	54	64	0.313
Night 5 th Call Area**	39	177	137	394	0.449
Night 9 th Call Area	55	301	225	463	0.650
Night 10 th Call Area	54	48	150	279	0.172
Day Central US	13	70	73	209	0.335
Night Central US @	30	592	155	534	1.109
Day Inter-Area Traffic	39	54	36		92%
Night Inter-Area Traffic	62	202	61		98%
Total Voice/CW Nets		1701	1013	2073	
DTN Digital			Received	Sent	
WB9FHP Central Area HUB		4030	2005	2025	
KE5YTA Alternate HUB		261	171	90	
Digital Stations (11)		1009	333	676	
Total DTN Digital		5300	2509	2791	
Total Central US		7001			
* Not Radio Relay International affiliated					

Net	Sessions	QTC	QNI	QTR	Rate
# Manager recovering - thanks Dave, ND0CW, and Ron, WB9WKO for their reports					
@ Manager resigned, nominations open. Composite from NCS reports received					
** Nominations open for manager, thanks to NC Stations for statistics					

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

Hope you all have a good autumn and enjoy the cooler (but not cold, please) weather.

73, Steve K6JT
TEX Newsletter Editor and Statistician

TSN Corner

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

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

Net Manager: Jason KD5RQB, fallishere2@hotmail.com



Photo Courtesy of VE3UU

Greetings From Northeast Texas

Jason, KD5RQB, has been calling the net when he is able. There has been only 1 other check-in for several months (KD5ZCQ). Help is needed for more support of TSN. Jason tries to call up the net Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Please look for him.

Net Control Stations

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
(No Net)	(No Net)	(KD5RQB)	(OPEN)	(KD5RQB)	(KD5RQB)	(No Net)

TSN Activity Reports

Month	QNI	QTC	QTR	Nr. Operators	Sessions
August 2021	13	0	114	2	12
September 2021	14	0	98	1	14

TSN Roster (January 2019 to Current Date)

Callsign	Name	QTH
KX5C	Ron	SILSBEE, TEXAS
W5DAE	Don	SAN ANGELO, TEXAS
W5ESE	Scott	DRIPPING SPRINGS, TEXAS
KK4HCF	Sam	MARYSVILLE, TENNESSEE
KD5RQB	Jason	ATLANTA, TEXAS
N5XGG	Joe	ROCK ISLAND, TEXAS
WB8YLO	Steve	TOLEDO, OHIO
KD5ZCQ	John	ATLANTA, TEXAS

Stop by any evening Tuesday through Friday on 3570kHz at 7:45p.m. CT and start the net if you do not hear anyone there. This is a great place to learn how to handle traffic on CW. If you are a voice net traffic handler, this is a great addition to your amateur radio skill set. See you on the air!!

73, Jason KD5RQB

RN5 Corner

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

Alternate Frequency 7052 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 80 of the **RN5 Corner**.

Early RN5 moves back to 80 meters now that Sam W5CU, is back from CO. Sam is in OK but continues with reduced skeds. He is no longer on Sunday nights and does CAN liaison duties only Monday and Wednesday evenings.

Following is a list of the stations sending NC reports for August and September (in order from earliest date station first reported that month). Thanks to you all for supporting RN5! We can certainly use more NCS and CAN liaison help, especially after Jack, K5WNU, lost part of his antenna during Hurricane Ida, which went directly through his QTH. He is still waiting for help to untangle one end from a tree and replace part of it. He is not able to climb up himself.

August: W5CU 21, K6JT 8, K5WNU 14, K5GM 2

September: K6JT 9, W5CU 29, W8IM 1

As you can see, Sam, W5CU, is the most active in calling up the net. Note that many sessions went uncovered, so any other stations who are able, please call up the net if you don't hear anyone. Since there are so few RN5 liaisons to CAN, incoming CAN traffic that could be handled is being routed by other means. Note that Saturday nets are still optional, and there are now no regular assignments for Sunday.

Thanks to all for your support of RN5, especially regulars WA5CAV, W5CU, K5WNU, K5GM, K6JT, and K5RG. John, KC4FL, continues to regularly check in from FL. Ben, KZ8Q, and Dean, W8IM, check in from FL some nights, although it has been difficult for them with the current poor conditions. Note that Jeff, WB8WKQ, who was occasionally checking in from MI, is still recovering from serious surgery, having had to go back to the hospital for follow-up care more than once.

Please continue to pass AR and OK 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).

TN traffic can be sent to Jim, WA4VGZ, who is the manager of cycle 2 RN5 and located in TN. Use WA4VGZ at Winlink dot 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 at 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	(K5WNU)	Open
NCS #2	K5WNU	K6JT	W5CU	K6JT	K5WNU	(K5WNU)	Open
CAN TX	Open	Open	W5CU	Open	Open	Open	Open
CAN RX	Open	Open	W5CU	K6JT	Open	Open	Open
DRN5	Open	K6JT	K5RG	K6JT	Open	Open	Open

* K5WNU off the air until antenna is fixed

2021 Statistics

MONTH	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER
SESSIONS	45	39
QTC	128	177
QNI	173	137
QTR	421	394
AVG QTC	2.8	4.5
AVG QNI	3.8	3.5
AVG QTR	9.4	10.1

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

Region Net 5 Roster

Call	Name	State	Call	Name	State
WB5BNV	FRED	MS	WD5JTZ	MIKE	LA
WA5CAV	DICK	LA	KZ8Q	BEN	FL
W5CU	SAM	OK* / CO	K5RG	KEN	TX
W4DLZ	FRANK	(SK)	N5RL	RANDY	TX
W5DY	RODNEY	TX	W4SU	JERRY	(Retired)
W5FEA	JIM	TX	K5TSK	HANK	AR**
KC4FL	JOHN	FL	K4VIZ	TOM	AR**
K5GM	PETE	TX	WB8WKQ	JEFF	MI
W8IM	DEAN	FL	K5WNU	JACK	MS
K6JT	STEVE	TX	WA4ZPZ	TOM	(Retired)

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

** K4VIZ and K5TSK are 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