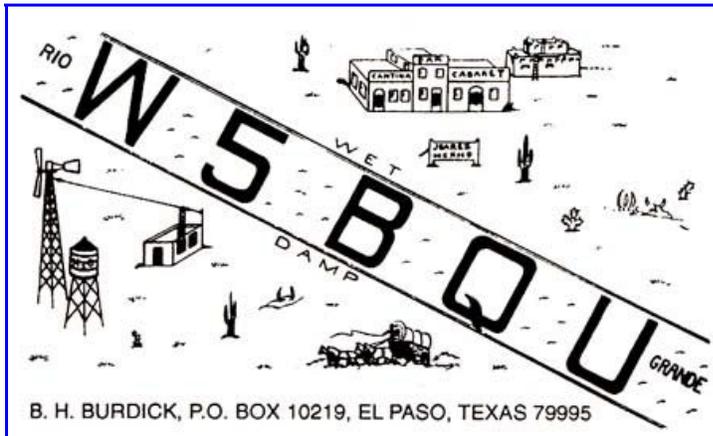


B. H. “Tex” Burdick Sr - W5BQU *1900-2004* Mr Byrl Burdick is the author of *Windmilling Thru the Eyes of B.H. Burdick*. Presents the story of the windmill erection crews working in the desert Southwest of the United States in the 1920s through 1940s. The book features 48 historic photographs by Tex, whose Burdick and Burdick Company of El Paso became one of the largest windmill distributors in the United States in the years between the world wars.



The text drawn from extensive interviews with Burdick and one of his erectors, Harry Clifford, details the lives of the men who erected and maintained windmills in the harsh desert country using their own wits and muscle as their principal tools. This is a book which places a human face on windmills, as readers learn about the lives of Burdick, his company employees, rancher customers, farmers and even Burdick’s bird dog, Jerry.

Tex Burdick’s photographs alone make this book worth the purchase price. Published in 1991 by Texas Tech Univ Press 123 pages, softbound, 48 illustrations. – The rest of the story is simply “Tex” was believed to be the oldest Amateur Radio op in the U.S.A. at age 103 - Born in San Angelo, Texas, Burdick attended the University of Minnesota. Returning to Texas in the late 1920's he established a well-drilling windmill and water supply firm. It still remains in the family.

Tex was people oriented and early on with his pilots license to expedite his business was known to deliver newspapers to his customers via air drop and to provide transportation for disabled youngsters on behalf of the Lions Club. Said by Steve K2CX “You will not meet a more courteous operator.” Tex was licensed nearly three quarters of a century.

Burdick retired in 1979, his recollections and photographs documenting the early days of his career were the focus of at least two books.

In addition to ham radio and an early interest in photography, Burdick also enjoyed hunting and fishing, then spending summers in Alaska and Colorado. Burdick expired at age 103 in El Paso Texas. In addition to his wife Juanita of 54 years, survivors include his son, Byrl Jr, many grandchildren and great grandchildren. Partially scripted arrl.org/arrletter QSL www.hamgallery.com

