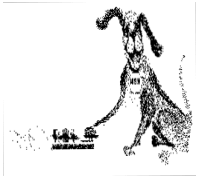
TRAFFIC CALL



Newsletter of the Ben White Memorial Nets
Founded 1938
Hit and bounce CW Traffic Net ~ Hit and Bounce Slow Net
MARCH 2001

LARRY FRAZER AWARD

APRIL ~ JUNE

The Award committee has picked the next recipient of the Larry Frazer, W4SUS Award, using the Award criteria: Net participation, traffic handled and operating procedures. We have picked Earle, W3JKX as the next W4SUS paddle recipient. Earle has been a long time member of the net. He is a constant check in on both HBN and HBSN. Thanks Earle, and CONGRATULATIONS…!

HBN Manager's Comments
Sis, WD8DIN

In February, fifty-one different stations brought a total of 564 QNI. Traffic 384, and 350 cleared. Average time per session was 30.41 minutes.

Ten or more pieces of traffic listed: W2EAG 88, KA8WNO 69, K8LJG 36, AB4E 30, N4ABM 25, WA3UNX 18, AA4AT 18 and WA4DOX 16. Perfect attendee for February is Jack, KA8WNO. WA3UNX, K2BCL and W0GRW 27, W3JKX 25. Those with QNI 20 to 23 times are AB4E, N4ABM, W1PEX, W2MTA, WX4H and W2EAG.

Please welcome W4VLL, Vic, in VA, who is taking an active part in HBN. Thank you for joining us, Vic.

Change of address WF1M, BOB ALLAN: ***Effective 01 April,*** 22 Whitmarsh Ave. Apt C Worcester, Ma. 01606.

HAPPY

"St. Patrick's Day is an enchanted time -- a day to begin transforming winter's dreams into summer's magic". --Adrienne Cook.

73, ARF -Sis WD8DIN

HIT AND BOUNCE SLOW NET

MANAGER'S COMMENTS

C. M. "Sam" Shearer, WB5ZJN

Twenty-six stations contributed to February's QNI of 384 and a QTC of 50. Perfect attendance accolades go to Jim, WA3DUH; Chuck, N3ON; and Sam, WB5ZJN, and only one day behind these stations were Gail, K2BCL; Sam, KG2HA; and Ad, NR9K. Other "high rollers" were John, VE3DTR (26); Cid, W2QQ (26); Don, K2YAI (25); Bill, W2MTA (24); Chuck, KX8B (22); Earle, W3JKX; (19); Mike, WD8DHC (15); Harry, N3DE. Whether you checked in once or every day, your participation is important and appreciated.

New Net Control Stations: I'd like to welcome two hams to our stable of first-class regular net control stations. John, VE3DTR, will be taking the Sunday net and Chuck, KX8B, the Monday net. Chuck is in the midst of building a new house about 200 miles away from his present home; so he will be a little "out of pocket" this spring and summer. However, we'll cover for him.

QSP to HBN: In the event we have traffic that can not be passed on HBSN and you will be going to HBN, please help us out by taking the relaying traffic to HBN. As long as we have at least one person going to HBN, we should never have traffic that is not passed. Ideally, it would be great if we had a regular liaison to HBN. Any volunteers?

HBSN Statistics: Below are the statistics for January and February, 1995-2001. As you can see, with the exception of one month, our QNI for the past two months is the highest it has been in the past six years.

This is excellent, and I am very encouraged with the continued participation of our "old timers" and the presence of new net members. Let's keep this up, and encourage new people to join us.

Our QTC, however, is the lowest it has ever been in the past six years. As you can see by the chart, there has been a steady decline in traffic. From what I've been told by other Net Managers and operators, this is a general trend with all traffic nets.

We need to make sure that we keep our traffic handling skills well honed, and moving traffic is an important aspect of our net operations. We definitely need to concentrate more on this aspect of our operations. I am not in favor of, nor am I advocating or encouraging us to start sending trivial messages just to generate traffic; however, a "thank you" message for a QSO or birthday or anniversary greetings are always appropriate. Maybe we could keep a better watch on the birthdays of our membership and send birthday greetings to HBSN and HBN members. (I have not been very good at doing this either.)

What do you think? Do you have any suggestions as to how we can increase our QTC? Drop me a line and let's start putting some ideas and information in the *Traffic Call* that will bring this count up. Perhaps you have other comments about the statistics that you could bring to my attention. I'd enjoy hearing from you.

Sam, WB5ZJN

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

March: 13 K3NNI; 21 N1OTC; 21 KE4WCW; 22 W4FRR; 22 K2YL; 23 W3JKX; 29 WF1M; 21 KB8ZYY. April: 5 WA8ZGL; 6 WA3UNX; 7 K8KFJ.

Update - N3QA relay status:

I shut down my WinLink NTS Digital station due to lack of time and too few check-ins on the local VHF side to take the Third Region traffic. No longer do I have the system running to allow me to QSP QTC for any region.

I'm sorry about this, but I no longer have the time available to devote to the system.

As always, when I can get into the HBN I will relay MD/DE QTC. 73 to all, Cal - N3QA
[*We miss you, Cal. Best wishes –Ed.*]

DEADLINE FOR NEWS:

Via USPS **25TH of month**
1182 Eastbrook Ln Hendersonville NC 28792

Email **5th of following month**
arfer@hitandbounce.net

HBN FEBRUARY QNI

Sis, WD8DIN

CALL	NAME	STA	QNI	QTC
NG1A	FRED	MA	1	
N1DHT	GEORGE	VT	19	2
W1KX	BILL	ME	8	
N1OTC	JACK	MA	1	
W1PEX	DAN	NH	21	
KWIU	MARCIA	MA	7	
K2BCL	GAIL	PA	27	1
WA2CUW	TOM	NJ	12	3
W2EAG	MARK	MA	23	88
K2GWN	JACK	NY	2	
W2MTA	BILL	NY	21	5
N3DE	HARRY	MD	17	6
KJ3E	AL	MD	1	1
KK3F	PAT	MD	11	
K3FT	CHUCK	MD	1	
W3JKX	EARLE	PA	25	2
WA3JXW	DUDLEY	PA	3	1
N3QA	CAL	MD	4	
K3RC	BOB	OH	4	
N3SW	SCOTT	PA	2	
WA3UNX	DON	PA	27	18
WA3YLO	TONY	MD	1	3
N4ABM	OLE	VA	20	25
AA4AT	ART	VA	13	18
W4DNE	BILL	NC	5	1
WA4DOX	OBIE	VA	7	16
AB4E	AB	NC	20	30
WB4FDT	PIP	MD	5	
WX4H	MORT	FL	22	4
W4KFR	JIM	KY	1	
KJ4N	JAN	FL	1	
W4VFJ	CHAS	NC	5	
W4VLL	VIC	VA	4	
KA5NNG	MIKE	AR	17	8
K5UPN	JOE	TX	1	
WB5ZJN	SAM	OH	4	
WD8DHC	MIKE	WV	13	2
WD8DIN	SIS	NC	15	3
K8GA	JERRY	MI	4	
KC8GMT	LORA	MI	9	3
K8KV	BEN	MI	17	4
K8LJG	JOHN	MI	7	36
AA8PI	DON	MI	14	1
W8RTN	LEE	MI	17	6
KA8VWE	WALLY	OH	19	1
KA8WNO	JACK	WV	28	69
KB8ZYY	RAY	MI	1	3
N9KHD	ANDY	WI	17	1
K9PUI	DICK	IN	3	2
W0GRW	GEB	MN	27	4

HIT AND BOUNCE SLOW NET FEBRUARY, 2001

C.M. (SAM) SHEARER, WB5ZJN, MANAGER

CHARLES (CHUCK) PUNZELL, N3ON, ASST. MANAGER

QNI - 384 QTC- 50 Sessions - 28

CALL	NAME	STATE	QNI
W1KX	BILL	ME	8
K2BCL	GAIL	PA	27
KG2HA	SAM	NY	27
W2MTA	BILL	NY	24
K2YAI	DON	NY	25
N3DE	HARRY	MD	15
VE3DTR	JOHN	ON	26
WA3DUH	JIM	DE	28
KK3F	PAT	MD	1
W3JKX	EARLE	EPA	19
WA3JXW	DUDLEY	EPA	7
N3ON	CHUCK	WPA	28
WA3QNT	BOB	PA	5
W3QQ	CID	DE	26
WA3YLO	TONY	MD	2
W4VLL	VIC	VA	3
KA5NNG	MIKE	AR	2
WB5ZJN	SAM	OH	28
VE7MMH	MIKE	BC	1
KX8B	CHUCK	OH	22
WD8DHC	MIKE	WV	15
WD8DIN	SIS	NC	3
KA8WNO	JACK	WV	1
NR9K	AD	EPA	27
N9KHD	ANDY	WI	13
KC0HAW	ROY	MN	1

Comments: -Mark, W2EAG:

The QST signal: QST should not be used during the coarse of any net. That Q signal, I believe may be copyrighted, and should only be used either by any amateur who is sending information on the air with no "second party" involved, (bulletins etc) or W1AW, who does the same.

Traffic: I notice a few members who have been sent off frequency, are coming back to the NCS saying "de (callsign) cleared such and such tfc". There is no need for this. The NCS knows the tfc has been cleared when the stn comes back with just the suffix of his or her call and nothing else. If however, we all know, there was a problem off freq, then it is permissable to let the NCS know.

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Patches

What are your thoughts about ROOA patches for your jackets, caps, etc.? Mark has volunteered to investigate the cost of having a silkscreen done and have them made. The patch he has is maroon in color on a white background, but can be changed. If you are interested, please respond within 30 days and state quantities needed and a suggestion, if any, for color. -Sis

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Straight Key Speeds:

Following is some information about the possible and/or "record" speeds using a straight key.

From the ARRL book, "MORSE CODE: THE ESSENTIAL LANGUAGE", by W3DKV Submitted by Mike, KA5NNG

"Levels of speed referred to are usually those of receiving rather than sending. With recent developments in code sending devices,the upper limit of man's ability to send code is actually the upper limit of man's ability to type. There is one sending record, however, that is of interest.

According to the Guiness Book of World Records, the record for sending code by use of a straight key is 35 WPM. It was set on November 9, 1942 by Harry A. Turner, a member of the U.S. Army Signal Corps, who accomplished the feat at Camp Crowder, Missouri. This record is significant because it demonstrates an upper limit for straight-key work and points out the need for other sending instruments capable of higher speeds."

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From the N0HFF text files (part of the "package" for the W4FOK Morse/CW program "The Mill"): -KA5NNG

(On sending speeds): "A reasonably good operator can learn to send good quality International Morse on a straight key up to 20 - 25 wpm. Some can make 30 wpm, but 35 wpm seems to be about the absolute limit (equivalent to about 45 wpm for American Morse)."

(On receiving speeds):
"At first, in the latter 1800's, contests seem to have been concerned only about sending ability. This implies that receiving ability exceeded their ability to send -- which is borne out as we read history: operators were then limited by their sending ability only. Only later, as "speed keys" and then machine sending entered so that truly high sending speeds could be achieved, do receiving contests seem to have become important. That means until about the turn of the century.

"We have little detail about most of these receiving contests. However for the one conducted at the ARRL Convention in Chicago, in August, l933, where former World champion Ted R. McElroy was defeated by Joseph W. Chaplin, we have extensive information provided by Ivan S. Coggeshall,

one of the four judges. Mr. Coggeshall was a telegraph operator himself, and later a vice-president of Western Union. He was the only non-amateur judge. (QST November 1933 p 3., personal correspondence with Mr. Coggeshall and comments from McElroy, etc.) From these materials the contest may be described as follows:

"The test tape material was in plain English taken from Chicago newspapers and carefully edited so as to contain no difficult or unusual words or figures, and only the simplest of punctuation. Each section of test tape ran for five minutes at each speed.

"The set-up provided 200 pairs of headphones to listen to the 1000 cycle tone of the oscillator as it was controlled by a Wheatstone automatic keyer. The available test room was small and not many visitors could watch the proceedings. Because there were so many contestants the first test series had to be run in two heats. "The test tape for the final run--off had been prepared and sealed in New York in the presence of Inspector Manning of the Federal Radio Commission, and was opened by Inspector Hayes of the Chicago office at the scene of the contest.

"The final run began at 40 wpm - then 45 - then 50, 53, 54.1, 57.3 and 6l.6 wpm. (The machine apparently could not be accurately preset at these speeds, and speed was determined afterward by word count and time elapsed.)

"Rules of the contest allowed a maximum of 1% error for each 5-minute run. At 61.6 wpm all made more than 15 errors. At 57.3 (1432 characters or 286.7 5-letter words) Chaplin had 11 errors out of an allowable of 14, while at 54.1 wpm he had but 5 errors, and McElroy made 8 at this lower speed. Chaplin was declared the winner at 57.3, breaking McElroy's 11-year old record (1922) of 56.5 with one error on a 3-minute run.

"As for the well known 1939 speed contest, where McElroy was credited with winning at a speed of 75.2 wpm, McDonald wrote: 'In the Asheville tournament, the speed was practically the same for McElroy and myself. We both copied solid (press matter prepared by the FCC), but they sent some stuff at 77 wpm and I didn't get a good start on it. McElroy made something that looked like copy,. but pretty ragged looking, so they gave him 75.2, I guess it was. If only first class copy had been counted, it would have ended a tie. McElroy and I have had about the same telegraph experience.' " []

JUST STARTING OUT IN TRAFFIC HANDLING? Here is an excerpt on CW traffic handling from W2EAG's Training Guide. (reprinted with permission):

MESSAGE FORM: There are several differences in CW traffic handling. Just the nature of CW requires more abbreviations which we will go into here.

In the preamble the abbreviation for the word number is the letters NR which is sent before the number of the message.

If there is a filing time in the preamble it should always be in UTC time and the letter "Z" is used to designate Universal Time. It directly follows the four digit numbers. EXAMPLE: 2130Z.

When your complete message is down on paper, it should have separate lines for preamble, address parts, text and the signature.

In the address to separate each line the pro-sign AA over-scored is used. This lets the receiving station know a new line is coming. We use it between the address name and the street address, then again between that and the city, the state and zip code, then again between the Zip Code and the telephone number. After the telephone number, the abbreviation letters

over-scored BT (Break) is used. The second break separates the text from the signature.

After the signature the pro-sign letters over-scored AR (end of transmission) followed by the letter N (no more) are used if no more traffic follows. If you have more pieces of traffic to send, then send the AR followed by the letter B (more to follow) plus the number of pieces you have left to send.

EXAMPLES:AR N equals End of Transmission, no more. AR B3 equals End of Transmission, three more to follow.

The prosign over-scored IMI meaning repeat or question-mark, is used when sending difficult names, words or mixed groups when you want to send them twice. This saves time on fills.

The letter R serves as a decimal point in CW traffic handling. EXAMPLE:The frequency of 3.585 is sent 3R585.

If a question mark is needed, the word QUERY is used.

If a dash is used or needed, simply spell out DASH. These are most often found in the address, especially in the nine digit Zip Code.

EXAMPLE: 02463-3115
SEND: 02463DASH3115

GETTING FILLS: It is very important to know all the abbreviations used for getting fills on CW. They are as follows:

WA = word after BN= between
WB = word before AB= all before
AA= all after IMI= repeat

The abbreviation for Confirm is "CFM". The abbreviation for Signature is "SIG". Both are used frequently.

When you miss a large portion of the message it is necessary to use the over-scored IMI (Repeat, Question) followed by the over-scored BN (Between). This is followed by sending the last correctly received word then the word AND, followed by next correctly received word.

EXAMPLE: IN ADR IMI BN 2648 AND TEWKSBURY K
MEANING: In the address repeat 2648 and Tewksbury, go ahead.

Don't forget to use "pointers", such as "in the address" or "in the text", pointing to the part of the message then using the proper pro-signs for fills. This makes it much easier for the sending station to look in the correct part of the message where the fill is going to be asked for, thus speeding up the passing of the traffic. []

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TRAFFIC HANDLER'S PICNIC Saturday, July 28, 2001, in Newark Valley, NY at QTH of W2MTA. Friday night supper at a local restaurant. Many new motel facilities available in Vestal NY area along the Parkway, Route 434, some 15 miles from Bill's QTH. Other facilities available at Endicott, Johnson City and Owego.

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The following is an excerpt from the Baltimore (BTN) and NTS Operators Instruction Manual authored by Chuck Reville, K3FT: (with permission from the author)

Delivering the Traffic to Destination

Delivery is normally done by telephone. If you find the telephone number is invalid or otherwise unusable, you may choose to send it via the U.S. Postal Service, hand-carry it, check local information for a new or updated address/telephone number, or service the originating station back via service message advising non-delivery and why.

AA = all

Should you choose to service it back, use ARL SIXTY SEVEN. If you mail the message to the recipient, an enclosed note explaining the purpose of the message, why it was sent via the U.S. mail, and a brief explanation about

Amateur Radio will be useful. Remember the 'KISS' ('Keep It Short and Sweet'!) principle when enclosing any notes with the message.

Delivery via telephone: You call the telephone number shown on the message. A party answers. You introduce yourself by name and state that you are an Amateur Radio operator with a FREE GREETINGS MESSAGE for (identify the person you wish to speak with) from (identify the signature of the person sending the message) in (identify the city of origin). You DO NOT reveal the contents of the message to anyone other than the person to whom it is addressed….If the party answering the telephone is NOT the recipient of the message, politely ask for that person. When the recipient answers the phone, you again identify yourself by name and that you are an Amateur Radio operator with a FREE GREETINGS MESSAGE for them from (identify the signature of the person sending the message) in (identify the city of origin).When (addressee) is ready, read him the message, substituting plain English words for any "ARL"-text or other obvious abbreviations. When finished, ask if he would like a repeat of any part of the message. A good tactic is to offer to explain what Amateur Radio is, how the message got from the originator of the message to him, and "sell" Amateur Radio. It is also a very good time to solicit a message from him.

Non-delivery of message: The message cannot be delivered due to incorrect address, address no longer valid, (moved, changed, etc.), phone number invalid (and no correction is found), addressee not at that address/phone number, etc.. Originate a SERVICE (SVC) message to the originating station using ARL SIXTY SEVEN to advise them of the non-delivery AND WHY (ARL SIXTY SEVEN-Your message number (insert number of undelivered) undeliverable because of (insert short, concise reason for non-delivery). (Please advise). Note the handling information on the message and file.

Mis-delivery of message: The message was delivered to the address shown, but you discovered that it was delivered in error. (Same name, but the correct addressee is a Junior and you delivered it to the Senior.) Contact the party and redeliver the message to the correct person. Note the delivery information on the message along with a notation as to the circumstances and file.

Unaccepted delivery: Delivery was attempted by collect call and the collect call was refused OR the party answering the phone refused to accept the message for whatever reason. Use ARL SIXTY SEVEN and insert the appropriate wording in a SVC message back to the originator advising them of the non-delivery and why. Note the information on the message and file.

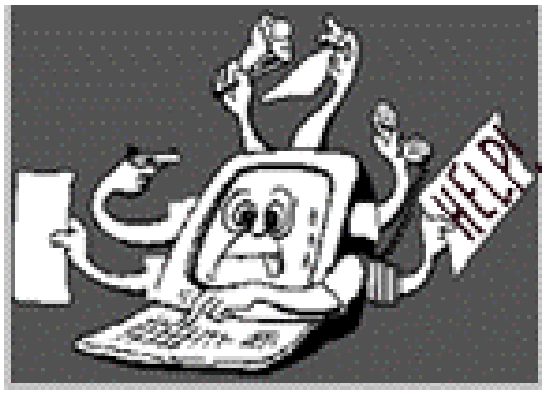
The meeting places… when and where: (note changes in bold print)

HBSN	**3714 Khz 7:30 AM Daily**	
Sunday	**VE3DTR**	**John**
Monday	**KX8B**	**Chuck**
Tuesday	NR9K	Ad
Wednesday	WB5ZJN	Sam
Thursday	N3ON	Chuck
Friday	WD8DHC	Mike
Saturday	OPEN	
	==========	
HBN 7042 Khz 8:30 AM Daily (alt 7114 Khz)		
Sunday	**WA4DOX**	**Obie**
Monday	KA8WNO	Jack
Tuesday	WA3UNX	Don
Wednesday	N4ABM	Ole
Thursday	KC8GMT	Lora
Friday	WD8DIN	Sis
Saturday	**W2EAG**	**Mark**

Treasurer's Report February
N4ABM Ole

Balance as of Feb 7		$112.85
Contributions:		
W0GRW		10.00
WB4FDT		10.00
W2MTA		20.00
N1DHT		15.00
Expenditures:		
TC Postage	34.00	
Printing	40.51	
Balance Mar 11	93.34	

When making contributions, please make checks payable to **Merritt Olson, 12106 Stirrup Rd., Reston, VA 20191-2104. Checks are preferred for purposes of record keeping.**



"War of the Word"

There would have been a photo of an arfer here, but my viewer is not displaying the image files in my "Ham Pix" folder.

Thanks to everyone for your continued support of the Hit and Bounce nets. 73 ARF -Sis

TRAFFIC CALL
C. L. "Sis" Berry WD8DIN
1182 Eastbrook Lane
Hendersonville NC 28792-6411
Email: arfer@hitandbounce.net