



*Newsletter of the
Ben White Memorial Nets founded 1938*

Hit and Bounce Net ~ Hit and Bounce Slow Net

JANUARY 2002



Larry Fraser Award ~ January-March 2002

The W4SUS Award Committee has chosen Don, WA3UNX as the next recipient. Don has been a GREAT NCS for Hit and Bounce net for a long time. He has shown his operating skills twofold. Using the Award

criteria: Operating procedure, Net participation, and traffic handled, Don surely follows all of the above. Congratulations Don.....well deserved!

The W4SUS Award Committee

MANAGER'S COMMENTS
HIT AND BOUNCE NET

My apologies to Tom, WA2CUW who checked in 8 times in November, and was omitted due to an error on my part. Data was entered in the wrong column on the spreadsheet. Thanks for bringing it to my attention, Tom.

In December fifty-nine different stations checked in with QNI 688, listing 508 and clearing 497 pieces of traffic. Average time per session 34.3 minutes. A special thanks to everyone who graciously covered Thursdays and Fridays in my absence.

The following arfers listed 10 or more pieces of traffic: KA8WNO 75; K8LJG 71; NG1A 70; K2BCL 63; K8KV 30; W8RTN 29; N3DE, AA8PI, AB4E, KW1U and N3AO, each listing 11; W2MTA and KA8VWE, 10 each.

Three with perfect attendance- KA8WNO, K2BCL and WX4H. W2MTA 28; NR9K 28, N9KHD 27, K8LJG 26, K8KV 25, WØGRW 25, W2EAG 23, N4ABM 23, N3DE 22, W3JKX 21, KK3F 21, WA3UNX 20, KA8VWE 19, KA5NNG 18, W8RTN 16, AA4AT 15, K2GCE 15, NG1A 13,

K5UPN 13, AA8PI 12, W1KX 12, W1PEX 12, W4VLL 11, AB4E 10 and WA3JXW 10.

To everyone, thank you for being there. Your teamwork makes HBN the great net it is.

Charles, W4VFJ tells me that Jack WØUCE is hoping to soon get on CW from Japan. A belated Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all arfers, Jack – to you also.

I hope this new year brings everyone good health, happiness, and peace to the world.

73, Sis WD8DIN

HIT AND BOUNCE SLOW NET
MANAGER'S COMMENTS

C.M. (SAM) Shearer, WB5ZJN, Mgr.

Charles (Chuck) Punzell, N3ON, Asst. Mgr

Twenty-six duteous hams QNI'ed this month. These tovariches generated a QNI of 336 and a QTC of 156. (Because there was one net report that was not received, this month's records are based on 30 not 31 days.) Perfect attendance goes to Gail, K2BCL, and Ad, NR9K. High marks go to Cid, W3QQ (28); Carter, N3AO (26); Sam, KG2HA and Bill, W2MTA (25); Earle, W3JKX, and Sam, WB5ZJN (23); Chuck, N3ON (20); Harry, N3DE (19). To all who checked in -- kudos!

About us: Jim, WA3DUH, sent me a note saying he would be back with us soon. He has moved and has not had a chance to get his rig up. Bill, W2MTA, Monday's NCS, has been called away on a family emergency. We hope all is well with your family, Bill. John, VE3DTR, wrote "...I had a fall and did not have the opportunity to tell you I would be in the hospital for a period of time. Since then, I have had an operation and am coming along very well." John estimates he will be back with us in the second week of January. We miss all you guys! Gail, W2BCL, will return to help us out with an NCS slot as soon as he gets his new Windom up. His present antenna is inefficient, and he feels his signal is too weak to function well as a net control station.

How about you? So, what is going on with you? Your activity on and off the air is always interesting to us. Drop me a line (Postal service: C. M. Shearer, 3136 Englewood Dr., Stow, OH 44224. E-mail: cshearer@kent.edu), and let us know what new and old exciting things are going on in your life.

N43502: My son and his wife landed in Ohio with my 1946, BC12-D Taylorcraft airplane. They flew from Melbourn, FL to Stow, OH through "four seasons," as my daughter-in-law described the trip. They left Florida in sunny, warm weather, but by the time they got to Ohio, they were flying in snow. The worst part of the trip was the very cold temperatures. Older airplanes were not too air tight and the "heaters," if you can call them that, are a joke. Nevertheless, the fuselage of N43502 is now in my garage. The engine, a Continental 65 horsepower, removed and stored in the climate-controlled basement, and the fuselage has been stripped. More next month. 73, Sam, WB5ZJN

Look who had a busy 2001 on HBN-

KA8WNO 740 QTC
 K8LJG 637
 NG1A 520
 K2BCL 446

Congratulations to Jack, John, Fred and Gail.

**Propagation Forecast Bulletin 2 ARLP002
 From Tad Cook, K7VVV Seattle, WA
January 11, 2002 To all radio amateurs**

Solar activity has been lower over the past week. Average daily sunspot numbers during the week of January 3-9 were nearly 52 points less than the previous week, and average daily solar flux dropped by 42 points. Along with less sunspots there was very little geomagnetic activity, which is great for HF propagation because of lower absorption. Many periods over the past week had planetary and mid-latitude K indices of 0 or 1.

Solar flux probably reached a short-term minimum when it was 188.6 on Monday. Predicted solar flux for Friday through Monday is 230, 235, 240 and 245. Solar flux should peak near 260 around next Thursday or Friday, then reach another short term minimum during the first week of February.

Did we say this week was quiet? This won't last. A high-speed stream of energy from a coronal hole is due, and the predicted planetary A index indicates a geomagnetic storm. Values for Friday through Sunday should be around 30, 20 and 15. There was also a large solar flare at 1801z on Wednesday. Although it came from a sunspot near the center of the visible solar disk, the blast of energy from this flare should not bother earth.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ole, N4ABM, Treasurer
 Latest Balance Oct 12/01 -51.99
 Contributions:
 Nov 30/01 KJ4E 10
 Nov 28/01 K2BCL 20
 Nov 26/01 WA3UNX 15
 Dec 1/01 K3RC 20
 Dec 5/01 N3AO 10
 Dec 3/01 WA2CUW 10
 Dec 11/01 W4FRR 10
 Dec 14/01 WF1M 20
 Dec 23/01 W2MTA 20
 Balance Dec 23/01 83.01

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.
 Do not send contributions to the editor.

HBN QNI DECEMBER 2001

NG1A	FRED	MA	13	70
N1DHT	GEORGE	VT	9	
KC1DI	DAVE	ME	1	
W1KX	BILL	ME	12	1
W1PEX	DAN	NH	12	
KWIU	MARCIA	MA	9	11
K1WU	DALE	MA	5	
K2BCL	GAIL	PA	31	63
WA2CUW	TOM	NJ	3	4
W2EAG	MARK	MA	23	8
K2GCE	BILL	NY	15	
WB2GTG	BILL	NY	6	3
W2MTA	BILL	NY	28	10
W2RBA	JOE	NY	1	
WA2YL	JANICE	FL	4	
N3AO	CARTER	PA	4	11
N3DE	HARRY	MD	22	11
KK3F	PAT	MD	21	1
K3FT	CHUCK	MD	2	
W3JKX	EARL	PA	21	8
WA3JXW	DUDLEY	PA	10	7
K3NNI	JOHN	MD	5	
W3OKN	MERLE	PA	2	2
N3QA	CAL	MD	4	
K3RC	BOB	OH	7	
N3SW	SCOTT	PA	1	
WA3UNX	DON	PA	20	5
WA3YLO	TONY	MD	4	9
N4ABM	OLE	VA	23	4
N4AF	HOWIE	NC	1	1
AA4AT	ART	VA	15	5
WA4DOX	OBIE	VA	8	4
AB4E	AB	NC	10	11
WX4H	MORT	FL	31	
AF4NS	JIM	GA	4	
AF4QZ	ADAM	SC	2	
W4VFJ	CHAS	NC	5	
W4VLL	VIC	VA	11	
AC4W	BRIAN	NY	1	
AB4XK	CHET	FL	2	
KA5NNG	MIKE	AR	18	1
K5UPN	JOE	TX	13	
WW8D	TOM	WV	1	
WD8DHC	MIKE	WV	6	8
WD8DIN	SIS	NC	4	3
K8KFJ	GARY	WV	1	
K8KV	BEN	MI	25	30
K8LJG	JOHN	MI	26	71
AA8PI	DON	MI	12	11
W8RTN	LEE	MI	16	29
WB8SIW	JIM	MI	3	
KA8VWE	WALLY	OH	19	10
KA8WNO	JACK	WV	31	75
KB8ZYY	RAY	MI	2	1

KB9IOT	DAVID	OH	6	3
NR9K	AD	PA	28	4
N9KHD	ANDY	WI	27	
K9PUI	DICK	IN	2	8
WØGRW	GEB	MN	25	1

**HIT AND BOUNCE SLOW NET
NOVEMBER REPORT****(SAM) SHEARER, WB5ZJN, MANAGER
CHARLES (CHUCK) PUNZELL, N3ON, ASST.
MANAGER****QNI -336 QTC-156 Sessions - 31**

<u>CALL</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>QNI</u>
NG1A	FRED	MA	17
KB1FNF	ANDY	CT	1
W1KX	BILL	ME	9
K1WU	MARCIA	MA	1
K2BCL	GAIL	NY	30
KG2HA	SAM	NY	25
W2MTA	BILL	NY	25
WA2RUE	PHIL	NY	1
N3AO	CARTER	PA	26
N3DE	HARRY	MD	19
AA3GV	ERNEST	MD	1
W3JKX	EARLE	EPA	23
WA3JXW	DUDLEY	EPA	16
N3ON	CHUCK	WPA	20
WA3QNT	BOB	WPA	2
W3QQ	CID	DE	28
K3RC	BOB	OH	1
WA3YLO	TONY	MD	3
W4VLL	VIC	VA	7
KA5NNG	MIKE	AR	2
WB5ZJN	SAM	OH	23
WD8DHC	MIKE	WV	5
WD8DIN	SIS	NC	2
NR9K	AD	EPA	30
N9KHD	ANDY	WI	16
K9PUI	DICK	IN	3

**ARLB005From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT January 10, 2002
FCC invites petition comments**

The FCC is seeking comments on four Amateur Radio rule-making petitions filed recently and put on public notice this week. Comments are due by February 7, 2002, in petitions seeking to legally separate wideband and narrowband modes on 160 meters, allow hams to bequeath their call signs "in memoriam" to a specific club, expand HF operating privileges for Novice and Tech Plus

operators, and permit retransmission on amateur frequencies of NASA manned spacecraft communications.

A proposal from veteran Top Band operators and contesters Bill Tippett, W4ZV, and Jeff Briggs, K1ZM, asks the FCC to subdivide 160meters into mode-specific sub bands. The petition, submitted to theFCC in September, has been designated as RM-10352.

Tippett and Briggs contend that the ARRL band plan for 160 meters--modified last year after lengthy consideration by the ad hoc ARRL 160-Meter Band Plan Committee on which both men sat--does not go far enough and is unenforceable. They want the FCC to prohibit SSB, AM and other wideband modes below 1.843 MHz, as the ARRL band plan recommends.

Tippett and Briggs said that while the topic of their petition did arise during the ARRL committee's deliberations, their petition is an independent effort with no connection to the committee or the ARRL.The Quarter Century Wireless Association has asked the FCC to change its amateur vanity call sign system rules to permit individual amateurs to, in effect, will a call sign to a designated club as an "in memoriam" call sign. The FCC has designated the petition, submitted in December, as RM-10353. The QCWA notes that the current vanity rule "excludes current licensees from speaking for themselves" while they're still alive and "requires their relatives to speak for them post mortem."

Novice licensee John S. Rippey, W3ULS, has petitioned the FCC to expand HF phone and CW privileges for Novice operators. The FCC has designated the petition, submitted in December, as RM-10354. Rippey held a General ticket in the 1950s and 1960s and obtained his former call sign after relicensing as a Novice in 1999.

Rippey has asked the FCC to grant Novice and Technician (with Element 1 credit) licensees new or expanded operating privileges on 80, 40, 30, 17,15, 12 and 10 meters. His suggestions include SSB privileges for Novices and Tech Plus licensees on 17 and 12 meters.

The NASA John H. Glenn Research Center Amateur Radio Club is seeking a modification in wording to the Part 97 rule that already permits amateur retransmission of NASA manned shuttle communications. The petition has been designated as RM-10355. The club wants the Amateur Service rule, Sec 97.113(e), to include International Space Station communications as well as any manned spacecraft in the future. Interested parties may comment on any or all of these petitions via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System,<http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>.

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Ole, N4ABM, Treasurer

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Balance Dec 23/01 83.01

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A B, AB4E and Obie, WA4DOX are on the sick list. Get well soon, guys!

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

January: KK3F, 12th, N3ON 16th, KA5NNG 23rd, K8KV 25th, AA8PI 25th, W3KOD 28th, W3QQ 28th, WI2G 30th and K4MTX 31st.

February: WD8DIN 1st, WA3JXW 1st, WA3QNT 22nd, W8BEZ 24th and N3COR 27th.

About FOX Skeds

FOX skeds were fleet broadcasts for all "ships at sea" (NERK de NSS). I was not in WWII but [the skeds] were still going in the early 50s. Most messages were plain language and clipped along about 30 WPM. I don't know why it was called "FOX".
-KA8VWE

NIGHT LETTERS AND LONG TELEGRAMS

Quite by accident, included with the material that I got from Tom Perera (W1TP) about the tangent galvanometer, was a facsimile of an old Western Union night letter form. I had heard the term "night letter" used to refer to excessively long ham-grams, so was interested to learn where that term apparently originated.

Some excerpts from the Western Union form:

"The Western Union Telegraph Company will receive not later than midnight NIGHT LETTERS, to be transmitted only for delivery on the morning of the next ensuing business day, at rates still lower than its standard night message rates, as follows: the standard day rate for ten words shall be charged for the transmission of fifty words or less, and one fifth of such standard day rate for ten words shall be charged for each additional ten words or less.

"To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender should order it REPEATED, that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For this, one-half the unrepeated message rate is charged in addition."

Another bit of useless information that I recently came across was regarding the length of radio-telegrams permitted by the ITU recommendations. Some time ago, I had asked a number of people about the origins of the 25-words-or-less limit that NTS uses as its guideline. Most of the answers that I received at that time indicated that the limit we use was a "carry over" from the professional services. But, that apparently isn't so, because in the ITU manual (in the extracts from CCITT Recommendation F.1.), it says:

"The length of the text in a telegram is normally limited to 400 actual words for

transmission." [!] But wait, it gets better: ".....telegrams of more than 400 actual words shall be divided into separate telegrams each of 400 actual words, plus one telegram for the remainder, unless this remainder is less than 50 words."

de KA5NNG

Origins of the QN signals

(Submitted by KA5NNG)

BACKGROUND: About two years ago, I became curious about the interrogative form of the QN signals, so I went looking for someone who might be able to provide that information. That someone was Don Devendorf, W8EGI who was able to provide first-hand data and more.

In Don's letter, this is the answer he gave re the interrogative form:

"In the original QN signal concept, as I remember, we didn't consider the interrogative at all. By implication I suppose we just assumed it'd be the same as the regular Q signals."

He also provided some good background on the origins of the QN signals:

"The DARA QMN Net Committee, meeting one hot summer afternoon during 1939 down in SCM W8DYH's basement and fortified by cold liquid refreshment, not only devised the QN signals (N for Net; one for every letter A thru Z) but proposed the preliminary outlines of our National Traffic System as well."

In addition to the very informative letter, Don also sent a copy of an article that he had written some time back for the newsletter of a local radio club. Some extracts from that article follow:

"The QN signals listed in September's SCOPE came not from ARRL. In fact, they had an interesting origin right here in Michigan, where the first one-spot traffic net began in 1935. QMN has been in daily operation these sixty years on 3663 at 6:30 and 10 PM, and checkins are welcome.

"It's always been said nothing good ever came out of a committee, but there have been notable exceptions. One was the King James Bible in 1611. Another, the QN signals devised for net use together with the original concept of a National

Traffic System, by the Detroit Amateur Radio Association QMN Net Committee in 1939. The QN signals were published that fall in the DARA/QMN Bulletin and immediately spread far and wide on the new area nets that were following QMN's pioneering example.

"Ralph Thetreau, W8FX, AKA Tate, chaired the Net Committee and personally saw to it that the QN list, together with an excellent outline of the QMN operation and national system implications, were given the widest possible dissemination. In recognition of these efforts, W8FX was appointed Secretary/Treasurer of the QMN Net and held that office for over 40 years."

-from an article by Don Devendorf, W8EGI

This might help when listing Pennsylvania traffic: WPA zip codes 150xx through 160xx: (QSP: WA3UNX, WB8KPE, WA3QNT, N3COR) EPA all others plus some 160xx: (QSP: W3JKX, WA3JXW, K2BCL, N3AO).

W1AW 2002 Winter Operating Schedule

Morning Schedule:

1400 UTC (9 AM EST) CWs Wed, Fri
 1400 UTC (9 AM EST) CWf Tue, Thu
 Daily Visitor Operating Hours:
 1500 UTC to 1700 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM EST)
 1800 UTC to 2045 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST)
 (Station closed 1700 to 1800 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM EST))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2100 UTC (4 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2100 "	CWs	Tue, Thu
2200 " (5 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
2300 " (6 PM EST)	RTTY	Daily
0000 " (7 PM EST)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
0000 "	CWf	Tue, Thu
0100 " (8 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
0200 " (9 PM EST)	RTTY	Daily
0245 " (9:45 PM EST)	VOICE	Daily
0300 " (10 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0300 "	CWs	Tue, Thu
0400 " (11 PM EST)	CWb	Daily

Frequencies

(CW: 1.818 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975 21.0675 28.0675 147.555

RTTY: - 3.625 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095 147.555
 VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390 28.590 147.555

Notes:

CWs = Code practice (slow) = 5 - 7.5 - 10 - 13 - 15 WPM

CWf = Code practice (fast) = 35 - 30 - 25 - 20 - 15 - 13 - 10 WPM

CWb = Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

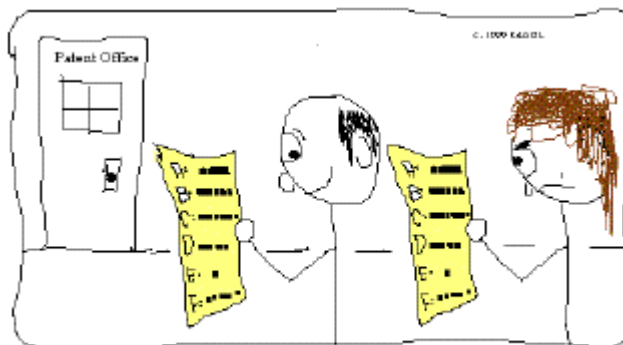
RTTY = Teleprinter Bulletins = BAUDOT (45.45 baud) and AMTOR-FEC (100 Baud). ASCII (110 Baud) is sent only as time allows.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds.

On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2330 UTC (6:30 PM EST), Keplerian Elements for active amateur satellites are sent on the regular teleprinter frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins between 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Thursdays and 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Fridays.

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Teleprinter at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.



LUCKILY FOR US, SAMUEL MORSE ARRIVES AT THE PATENT OFFICE JUST SECONDS BEFORE IGOR CZERNIKOVIZKYNOVIA

Courtesy of The K4ADL Cartoon Korner www.qsl.net/k4adl.

Origins of some CW Signals, Abbreviations, etc.

-KA5NNG

___ (the long dash for zero) this surely came from American Morse where the code for the zero was a dash approximately three times longer than a "normal" dash.

AA This is the Morse comma. Now used as a delimiter in the address field of NTS formal messages.

73 This was part of a list of "canned" texts used by the Western Union company and called the "92 Code". The meaning of the code 73 has varied over the years. Some of the listings:

- "Accept my compliments" (1859)
- "Compliments to _____" (1864)
- "Best Regards" (1908)

88 Another carry-over from the 92 Code, but it seems to have been defined as "Love and kisses" from the beginning.

SK This one IQ possibly IQ also came from the 92 Code where the code 30 meant "No more--the end". (In American Morse, the symbols for 30 are ..._ . _____ , more or less the same as SK in the International code.)

SX The dollar sign (\$) probably came from the Phillips Code, but was also listed in the tables of American Morse.

CQ According to information from the Morse Telegraph Club (MTC), this originated with the English landline where it was also used as the "General Call". In the manual of Radio Telegraphy and Telephony (Capt. S.S. Robison, U.S. Navy, 1919) is the following: "CQ - Signal of inquiry, or General Call...." and it was to be effective July 1, 1913. In that same manual, is given a list of Q-signals, among which is the signal QST which is defined thus: "General call to all stations." So, it would appear that prior to the adoption of CQ, QST may have been the general call.

CQD CQD was the original distress signal. According to information SOS from the MTC, this was replaced by SOS in 1906. The MTC data also says that the German signal SOE was originally suggested, but that because the letter E is so short, it was replaced with the second S. According to the ITU and FCC rules, when the distress signal SOS was being sent, it was not sent as three separate letters, but rather as one long symbol: "The distress signal consists of the group ..._ _ .._, symbolized herein by SOS, transmitted as a single signal in which the dashes are emphasized so as to be distinguished clearly from the dots." ITU R&R 39-1 (1992).

QST See above, CQ.

Changes in International code punctuation:

- PERIOD; The period originally was sent as
- COMMA; The comma originally was sent as _ . _ . _ .
- EXCLAMATION; The exclamation mark was sent as _ _ . . _ _

So, the original period was dropped, the original comma became the period, and the original exclamation mark (for

which there is no current symbol) became the comma. These changes took place circa 1938-39.

HBSN 3714KHz 7:30 AM Daily		
Sunday	VE3DTR	John
Monday	W2MTA	Bill
Tuesday	NR9K	Ad
Wednesday	WB5ZJN	Sam
Thursday	N3ON	Chuck
Friday	K2BCL	Gail
Saturday	N3COR	Don
HBN 7042 KHz 8:30 AM Daily		
Alt 7114		
Sunday	W2MTA	Bill
Monday	KA8WNO	Jack
Tuesday	WA3UNX	Don
Wednesday	N4ABM	Ole
Thursday	OPEN	
Friday	WD8DIN	Sis
Saturday	WA4DOX	Obie



While driving south on US 250 in central Ohio..... I spotted a tavern sign which made for a great photo-op! [From Obie about a year ago].

TRIVIAL TID-BITS FROM THE VROUK -KA5NNG

The bel, named in honor of Alexander Graham Bell, is the basic unit of measurement for sound intensity ratios. It is expressed as the logarithm of the ratio of a given intensity level (I) to a reference level (Io): bels = log (I/Io). The bel is too large a unit for most uses, so in practice, 1/10 of a bel (the decibel or db) is commonly used. Hence: db = 10 log (I/Io).

On our ham radio receivers, the generally accepted definition for an "S-unit" is 6 db. That leads to some interesting observations about transmitter power levels and their corresponding received signal strengths. Consider this: a QRP transmitter putting out 5 watts is only 13 db (about 2 S-units) down from a normal 100 watt output rig, all other things being equal. Or this: turning on that rock-crusher linear and going from 100 watts output to 1500 watts gets you about the same 2 S-units increase (12 db).

It makes you wonder a bit about those folks who routinely run full power. Also about those folks who are worried about a few watts of reflected power from their antennas....if you had an SWR high enough so that half your power was being radiated, and half reflected, your signal would be down 3 db (1/2 S-unit).

Just how old is HBN?

I found a 1987 issue of Traffic Call. The subheading reads "BEN WHITE, W4PL, MEMORIAL NET, FOUNDED IN 1930." In the History Sampler, it reads "1938". Does anyone know which is correct?

Until further notice, email W2MTA at w2mta@arrl.net.

TRAFFIC CALL

C. L. Berry WD8DIN
1182 Eastbrook Lane
Hendersonville NC 28792-6411
arfer@hitandbounce.net
injun20@hotmail.com

