



Newsletter of the  
Ben White Memorial Nets founded 1938

Hit and Bounce Net ~ Hit and Bounce Slow Net

FEBRUARY 2002

### HBN MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The kennel was buzzing in January, thanks to the fifty-seven stations who checked in and got the new year started with 705 QNI, 554 pieces of traffic listed and 545 cleared. Average time per session- 34.7 minutes. Longest session was 65 minutes on January 25. Best attendance day January 28, with 29 QNI, KA8WNO, NCS. Best traffic day January 6, QTC 37/42, W2EAG, NCS. Only 4 days with less than 20 QNI.

January "Traffic Honor Roll" (10 or more listed): KA8WNO QTC 129; K8LJG 92; K2BCL 31; K8GA 43; NG1A 26; WA3UNX and K8KV 18 each; W2EAG and WD8DHC 15 each; N4ABM 14; W8RTN 11 and W2MTA 10.

Attendance was up in January- KA8WNO, K2BCL and WØGRW 31; WX4H 30 (I recounted that one. Hi.); W2MTA 29; NR9K 28; K8LJG 26; KK3F 25; WA3UNX, W2EAG, K21U, WØGRW and N9KHD 24. **QNI 10 to 22 days:** K8KV, KA5NNG, KA8VWE, W3JKX, AA8PI, K3NNI, N1DHT, N4ABM, N3DE, WD8DIN, K2GCE, WD8DHC, W8RTN, AA4AT, W4VLL, KB9IOT all of whom checked in from. **Weekenders-** WA4DOX 8 (OF 8); W1KX 7; N3QA 5 and WA3JXW 5.

We are honored to have these newcomers: AC4W Brian NY (Dec); KC9YZ Bob IL; WW8D Tom WV; and AF8X Bob FL.

**ATTENTION ROOA Members:** I have issued a second certificate to a couple of people, so if anyone has a certificate issued before 1983 and through 1988, and you aren't listed (*see page 6*) please let me know. My list dates from 1983 through 1999, with only one listed in 1983 (KW1U, who was then KA1GBS.) If there is an old list somewhere out there, please send it for updating and I shall return it. While we're updating, let's do

the birthday list also. (*page 6*) If you aren't listed, or if the date is incorrect, send that also. My new year's resolution is to get organized!! First one I've ever kept. Hi. Tossing some things... you know- *junk: something you keep for 20 years and throw away three days before you need it.*

**ROYAL ORDER OF ARFERS:** Welcome these new Traffic Hounds, "inducted" into the ROOA "Hall of Fame" -certified as of February 7:

AA3GV, Ernie	WA3JXW, Dudley
AB4XK, Chet	WA2YL, Janice
K1WU, Dale	W4VLL, Vic
KB9IOT, David	NG1A, Fred
K8LJG, John	KX8B, Chuck

**How old is HBN?** Edith, WA4SRD, tells me that HBN was founded in 1938. She was a major contributor of data for the History Sampler.

HBN numbers are going up! Average number of QNI in January was 22.7, and traffic listed 17.8. Let's hope for good band conditions to continue.

Harry, N3DE, vacationing in Florida, monitoring HBN on his QRP rig. He will be back with us around February 23.

A special "thank you" to all for your generous contributions; for news, profiles, etc.. Your presence is very much appreciated.

Keep on arfing!  
73, Sis WD8DIN

### BIRTHDAY WISHES

**FEBRUARY:** 22 WA3QNT; 24 W8BEZ;  
27 N3COR

**MARCH:** 03 AB4E; 04 W3NGO; 13 K3NNI;  
21 N1OTC; 22 W4FRR; 23 W3JKX; 29 WF1M;  
31 KB8ZYY

**HIT AND BOUNCE SLOW NET**  
**MANAGER'S COMMENTS**  
**C.M. (SAM) Shearer, WB5ZJN, Mgr.**  
**Charles (Chuck) Punzell, N3ON, Asst. Mgr**

Twenty-eight trustworthy hams QNI'ed this month. These great guys (no gender bias here – there were no gals checking in, and we love you ladies) generated a QNI of 371 and a QTC of 152. Perfect attendance goes to Gail, K2BCL; Sam, KG2HA; Carter, N3AO; Cid, W3QQ. Others with high marks were N3ON and NR9K (30), WB5ZJN (28), N9KHD (24), NG1A (19), W3JKX and K2YAI (16), and W2MTA (15). Everyone who checked in is important to the success of the net, and we greatly appreciate your participation.

**About us:** Don, K2YAI, is “back in the saddle again.” (How many Gene Autry fans are out there?) We are very glad to have you back with us, Don.

**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](mailto:cshearer@kent.edu)), and let us know what new and old exciting things are going on in your life.



**N43502:** I have had some questions about my Taylorcraft airplane, so I have a “baby picture” of it below. At this time, it is completely stripped down to the fuselage frame. When my schedule slows down a bit, I will start rebuilding it, literally, from the inside out. When finished, it will be the same beautiful, docile, ship she was in 1946 when she rolled off the assembly line in Alliance, Ohio. The

T-craft is beautifully flying machine. It flies like a “real” airplane – no fancy hydraulics, no electronics, just you and the machine in complete harmony and cooperation with mother nature and the laws of physics. For me, this is flying!

Later...Sam, WB5ZJN

[*This is a beauty. Bright blue trim on white. –Ed*]

**Hit and Bounce Slow Net January Report**  
**WB5ZJN, C. M. “Sam” Shearer, Manager**  
**N3ON, Chuck Punzell, Asst. Manager**

QNI -371 QTC-152 Sessions -31

CALL	NAME	STATE	QNI
NG1A	FRED	MA	19
W1KX	BILL	ME	7
K2BCL	GAIL	NY	31
WB2GTG	BILL	NY	2
KG2HA	SAM	NY	31
W2MTA	BILL	NY	15
K2YAI	DON	NY	16
N3AO	CARTER	PA	31
N3COR	DON	WPA	4
N3DE	HARRY	MD	13
WA3DUH	JIM	DE	5
KK3F	PAT	MD	1
K3FT	CHARLES	DE	1
AA3GV	ERNEST	MD	1
W3JKX	EARLE	EPA	16
WA3JXW	DUDLEY	EPA	7
N3ON	CHUCK	WPA	30
K3RC	BOB	OH	1
WA3QNT	BOB	WPA	7
W3QQ	CID	DE	31
WA3YLO	TONY	MD	1
W4VLL	VIC	VA	7
WB5ZJN	SAM	OH	28
WD8DHC	MIKE	WV	10
K8KV	BEN	FL	1
NR9K	AD	EPA	30
N9KHD	ANDY	WI	24
K9PUI	DICK	IN	1

Two of our loyal members became **Silent Keys** in January - Roy, AC4DV, member since 1993 and Casey, K4MTX, member since 1990. They were fine operators and will be greatly missed. I had the privilege of meeting both.

**Hit and Bounce Net ONI JANUARY**

NG1A	FRED	MA	5	26
N1DHT	GEORGE	VT	17	1
W1KX	BILL	ME	7	
N1OTC	JACK	MA	4	
W1PEX	DAN	NH	4	
KWIU	MARCIA	MA	24	7
K2BCL	GAIL	PA	31	76
WA2CUW	TOM	NJ	4	
W2EAG	MARK	MA	24	15
K2GCE	BILL	NY	13	
WB2GTG	BILL	NY	7	8
K2GWN	JACK	NY	6	
W2MTA	BILL	NY	29	10
K2YAI	DON	NY	1	
N3COR	DON	PA	2	
N3DE	HARRY	MD	15	7
KK3F	PAT	MD	25	3
K3FT	CHUCK	MD	4	
AA3GV	ERNIE	MD	1	
W3JKX	EARL	PA	22	2
WA3JXW	DUDLEY	PA	5	
K3NNI	JOHN	MD	18	1
N3QA	CAL	MD	5	3
K3RC	BOB	OH	5	
WA3UNX	DON	PA	24	18
WA3YLO	TONY	MD	1	4
N4ABM	OLE	VA	16	14
AA4AT	ART	VA	11	4
WA4DOX	OBIE	VA	8	7
N4DY	DES	FL	2	
AB4E	AB	NC	5	
WB4FDT	PIP	MD	1	
WX4H	MORT	FL	30	
W4VFJ	CHAS	NC	4	
W4VLL	VIC	VA	11	
KA5NNG	MIKE	AR	22	9
K5UPN	JOE	TX	15	6
WW8D	TOM	WV	1	
WD8DHC	MIKE	WV	12	15
WD8DIN	SIS	NC	15	3
K8GA	JERRY	MI	8	43
K8KFJ	GARIE	WV	1	
K8KV	BEN	MI	22	18
K8LJG	JOHN	MI	26	92
AA8PI	DON	MI	18	2
W8RTN	LEE	MI	12	11
WB8SIW	JIM	MI	3	1
KA8VWE	WALLY	OH	22	3
KA8WNO	JACK	WV	31	129
AF8X	BOB	FL	1	
KB8ZYY	RAY	MI	2	1
KB9IOT	DAVID	OH	10	7
NR9K	AD	PA	28	2
N9KHD	ANDY	WI	24	

K9PUI	DICK	IN	1	
KC9YZ	BOB	IL	1	
WØGRW	GEB	MN	24	4

<b><u>Treasurer's Report</u></b>	
Ole, N4ABM, Treasurer	
Balance Dec 23/01	\$83.01
<u>Contributions:</u>	
K3NNI 1/10/02	\$25.00
WASRD 1/17/02	\$10.00
KW1U 1/17/02	\$25.00
KA8WNO 1/17/02	\$10.00
N1DHT 1/22/02	\$15.00
N9KHD 1/23/02	\$20.00
K2GWN 1/28/02	\$ 5.00
K2GWN 2/4/02	\$ 5.00
Balance Feb 4/02	\$198.01
TC Expenses (P&P)	
10/01	\$83.37
11/01	\$86.55
12/01	\$74.00
Total Exp	\$243.92
Balance Feb 4/02	(-\$45.91)
When making contributions, please make checks payable to <b>Merritt W. Olson, 12106 Stirrup Rd., Reston, VA 20191-2104</b> . Checks are preferred for purposes of record keeping. Do <u>not</u> send contributions to the editor.	

**PSYCHO-BABBLE FOR THE CW OPERATOR**

Here are some quirks relative to the use of CW that I've observed in myself. It would be interesting to know if other Arfers experience these too,(or other CW quirks). If so, how about sending the info to Sis so as to share it via the TC?

Problems getting into "receive":

I notice that after sending a string of several messages, and the time comes to put myself into "receive" for fills or to receive some incoming messages, that I often need a few words of incoming code to get my brain in gear. It seems to take a kind of conscious effort of will to re-focus on the incoming code, and often I have to ask for a repeat of the first word or two sent. Possibly the reason is that the sending process has become too automatized that my brain goes to sleep while sending. (Yeah, I know ...it's asleep all the time. Hi.)

Automatization of sending:

I notice that when sending traffic, the actual act of sending has become so automatic that I often can't recall what I've been sending. Sometimes, I've had to ask the receiving station if I sent some part of the message (such as the phone number) because I suddenly realize I have absolutely no recall

of having sent it, and need reassurance that it actually was sent. So far, I've never received a negative response. In the dark ages, when I worked as a Linotype operator, the same sort of thing happened more often, and you could type up a whole column and not have any idea of the content.

Receive errors:

I notice that the difficulty in "getting" a missed word seems to increase exponentially.....even some simple words, once missed, as often as not, need two or more tries to get.

Difficulty copying slow CW:

I find that at least I'm not alone on this one. A German psychologist by the name of Koch did some extensive testing of commercial operators way back in the 1930's, and found that at the very slow speeds, they had much difficulty copying. The following material was extracted from "The Art & Skill of Radio-Telegraphy", by Bill Pierpont, NØHFF, (Chapter 29 from "The Mill" software package) and heavily edited by me:

CHAPTER 29 - THE KOCH RESEARCHES

The obviously extensive researches of Ludwig Koch, psychologist at Die technische Hochschule, Braunschweig, Germany, reported in Jan-Feb.1936, seem to be virtually unknown outside of Germany. His goal was to discover the most efficient way to teach the Morse code to prospective radiotelegraph operators to meet the International requirements for commercial radio operators.

Koch's researches involved: determining what competent operators are doing, examining teaching methods in current use, then devising better methods, and testing them in actual classes. His conclusions and recommendations seem to be the earliest real research into how best to teach the Morse code. They agree on the whole with the best methods of today, and may offer some further ideas of value to us.

TESTS TO DETERMINE WHAT COMPETENT OPERATORS ARE DOING

He ran three series of tests to determine how the code is comprehended and for this purpose used four competent, actively-practicing radio telegraphers.

RECEIVING TESTS

Test number One: - Each operator was to copy the 30 German Morse characters sent by a machine in perfect "standard" timing at each of four different speeds... [in the range of 4 to 16 WPM]. At about 5 wpm these experienced operators hardly recognized a single character correctly! At 7 wpm only 40% to 60% of the letters were correctly identified. At 10 wpm all operators were getting about 95% correct. By 12 wpm all of them correctly identified every character.

Test number Two: - Here the length of the spaces between the letters was doubled. This time the operators recognized almost all letters correctly at all speeds. That is interesting.

From these tests it was concluded that experienced operators recognize a code character by its overall acoustic pattern (Gestalt), and that this pattern stands out clearly only

when sent at a minimum character speed of about 50 characters per minute. At lower speeds it is heard simply as a disjointed series of signals. -- Koch concluded that these operators could recognize the too-slowly sent letters only when letter spacing was doubled, because this increased interval gave them time to integrate the sound and mentally speed it up to where they could recognize it. (A beginner would not have the skill to do this.)

Various tests showed that about 12 wpm was an optimal speed for most people to begin learning. It is far enough above the 10 wpm plateau to avoid it. Further tests showed that once the student had mastered all the code characters at 12 wpm, it was relatively easy for him to advance to 70 letters per minute, and by continuing to practice using the same principles, to advance fairly rapidly, step by step, to the required speeds. Thus a 12 wpm beginning speed seemed well justified.

-73 KA5NNG

**The Meeting Places, when and where...**

**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	<b>OPEN</b> (WD8DIN QNG)	
Friday	WD8DIN	Sis
Saturday	WA4DOX	Obie

From the Ben White Memorial Net Historical Sampler

Published 1998

At least three unique "Q" signals were created for use on HBN....

QWW- "I want words with\_\_\_\_" (1965)

In 1974, as defined by W8IBX (NOW W8IQ):

QPC- "Put out several Calls and report back to me"

QPC?- "Shall I Put out several Calls and report back to you?"

QDS; "Direct Stations (callsign) and (callsign) to move (up/down) and pass traffic".

QDS? - "Shall I Direct Stations (callsign) and (callsign) to move (up/down) and pass traffic?"

# ROOA ROYAL ORDER OF ARFERS

AA3GV	2002	N4DY	1989
AA8PI	1993	N6OD	1993
AB4E (KO4BJ)	1993	N9KHD	1997
AB4XK	2002	NG1A	2002
AC4DV	1989	NR3Q	1990
K1WU	2002	VE3GSQ	1991
K3FT	1999	W1WCG	1993
K3NNI	1989	W2DMM	1990
K4MTX	1990	W2WSS	1989
K5UPN	1990	W3DP	1989
K6HAP	1989	W3JKX	1989
K8KFJ	1997	W3KOD	1991
K8KV	1998	W4SVG	1994
K8LJG	1998/2002	W4VFJ	1993
KA5NNG	1995	W4VLL	2002
KA8BBY	1989	W7LVB	1994
KA8VWE	1997	W8ENX	1995
KA8WNO	1991	W8JWX	1998
KB2EPU	1990	W8SKK	1993
KB2SRT	1991	WA1KKP	1991
KB8ZYY	1998	WA2CUW	1992
KB9IOT	2002	WA2YL	2002
KC1DI	1991	WA3JXW	2002
KC8GMT	1998	WA3QNT	1999
KD2WP	1991	WA3UNX	1989
KD8WX	1989	WA4DOX	1998
KF1L	1994	WB2RPW	1996
KJ3E	1999	WB5ZJN	1991
KK3F	1994/1997	WB8KPE	1995
KX8B	2002	WB8SIW	1998
N1DHT	1989	WD8DIN	1995
N1OTC	1994	WI2G	1989
N3COR	1994	WØGRW	1989
N3DE	1995	WØUCE	1993
N3DRM	1993	WT8L	1989
N3QA	1996	WX4H	1991
N4ABM	1997		

Revised January 2002

**ROOA DOB**  
**Revised February 2002**

**JANUARY**

12/52 KK3F PAT  
16/48 N3ON CHUCK  
23/43 KA5NNG MIKE  
25/19 K8KV BEN  
25/22 AA8PI DON  
28/23 W3KOD HARRY  
28/15 W3QQ CID

**FEBRUARY**

01/36 WD8DIN SIS  
01/ WA3JXW DUDLEY  
22/42 WA3QNT BOB  
24/23 W8BEZ AL  
27/29 N3COR DON

**MARCH**

03/50 W1XL BARNETT  
03/30 AB4E A B  
04/27 W3NGO DICK  
13/33 K3NNI JOHN  
21/34 N1OTC JACK  
22/25 W4FRR CHARLES  
23/22 W3JKX EARLE  
29/51 WF1M BOB  
31/41 KB8ZYY RAY

**APRIL**

05/29 WA8ZGL TOM  
06/25 WA3UNX DON  
07/41 K8KFJ GARIE  
21/50 KF1L NANCY  
21/51 WB4FDT PIP

**MAY**

22/43 K8LJG JOHN  
23/20 AA4AT ART  
24/45 AA2YV BILL  
26/33 WA3YLO TONY  
28/20 KA8WNO JACK  
31/18 W8RTN LEE

**JUNE**

08/38 KW1U MARCIA  
08/49 KC1DI DAVE  
10/60 WB8SIW JIM  
12/38 WØUCE JACK  
09/17 K2BCL GAIL

18/23 WA4SRD EDITH

**JULY**

01/31 W2MTA BILL  
14/31 WB8KPE DON  
16/18 W1PEX DAN  
17/26 N4DY DES  
21/40 WB2EAG MARK  
24/40 K5UPN JOE

**AUGUST**

02/27 N6OD BOB  
24/52 KC8GMT LORA  
30/34 W4VFJ CHARLES

**SEPTEMBER**

12/49 N3QA CAL  
23/06 K4ZB DOUG

**OCTOBER**

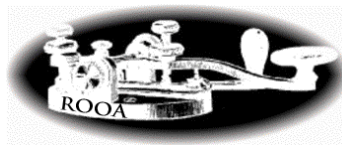
05/19 K2YAI DON  
08/17 NR9K AD  
11/27 K2GWN JACK  
15/30 KA8VWE WALLY  
16/29 WA2CUW TOM  
22/39 N3DE HARRY  
24/40 WB5ZJN SAM  
25/40 K3RC BOB

**NOVEMBER**

03/53 WA3VAT WAYNE  
02/18 N1DHT GEORGE  
12/32 N9KHD ANDY  
14/25 WX4H MORT  
16/17 WB2EUF KEN  
19/63 WD8LDY DAVID

**DECEMBER**

05/17 K4MC BOB  
06/24 N4ABM OLE  
07/ W4DJ AL  
12/21 WØGRW GEB



## RANDOM THOUGHTS ON NET PROCEDURES

NCS-ing: I think it is a good idea for the NCS to show up on the net frequency a little before the actual starting time for the net, and try to exchange a few words with some of the other Arfers who are probably lurking on frequency. That gives the NCS some indication of the state of propagation conditions before actually starting to call up the net so he can better anticipate potential problems getting everyone checked in with the minimum of fuss and bother.

Listen to what the stations checking in are saying in addition to their traffic lists. If a station adds "QNP", then there is not much point in the NCS acknowledging him. Rather the NCS should pick another station who is likely to QNJ the station and ask that station to QSL the list and the QNI.

Probably, it's another good idea, especially if the band is not in good condx to ask stations geographically distant from you to QPC periodically. That often eliminates the problems of stations who would otherwise require a QNB to get checked in.

One of the benefits of operating on a net like the HBN is that because of the wide geographical spacing between the various stations and because it is the same stations who QNI daily, you can gain some insight into the propagation paths involved. That insight can be a real help for the NCS when band conditions are less than ideal and he needs as many options as he can think of to find a path for the traffic.

When band condx are poor, the NCS should not hesitate to send stations to alternate bands that seem likely to provide a path. Also, in exceptionally poor condx, the possibility of an unusual long-skip QNB should not be overlooked. For example, it might happen that two EAN guys can't connect on 40 meters, but are geographically too close to each other for 20 meters; in that situation, it might be viable to send the two EAN guys to 20 meters along with one of the CAN guys to act as a QNB station.

When there is enough traffic listed for a particular state, and more than one outlet, it is better to spread the traffic amongst the various outlets rather than give it all to one station. Otherwise the

outlet stations being ignored may decide that they are not needed or wanted and quit checking in, and we need all the participants we can get these days.

General: I think that the long-standing NTS guideline of discouraging stations from offering to assist the NCS by relaying needs to be relaxed on a wide-area net such as ours. BUT, any station wanting to help the NCS should try to do so in such a way as to not add to the problem. My own method is to first attract the NCS's attention by sending my suffix, and then, after being recognized, make the relay. Often, a station who is attempting to QNI without success will hear the helper's suffix and will wait for the relay to get his traffic listed. Here is a subject that by rights should not even have to be mentioned amongst experienced traffic handlers:

When sent off the net frequency to move traffic, the first thing that should be done is to find out if the new frequency is clear. I still hear some of the most experienced traffic guys just plop down on top of an "in progress" QSO and start calling for their station. (Which may validate what one my employers once told me: that some folks have ten years of experience, but others have one year of experience ten times over.)

How can we expect the non-traffic folks to be considerate of us and our nets if we don't set a proper example by being considerate of them? We all know (or should) that when the NCS says "U5" that he means go up 5 and find a clear spot as near to the designated spot as possible.

As always, criticisms, comments and/or suggestions are welcome.

73, KA5NNG

### **QNW Pennsylvania traffic:**

**WPA zip codes 150xx through 160xx:**  
(WA3UNX, WB8KPE, WA3QNT, N3COR, NR9K)

### **EPA all others plus some 160xx:**

**(W3JKX, WA3JXW, K2BCL, N3AO, N3SW)**

### **Other QSP (if no other available):**

**K2BCL – EAN**

**W2EAG – RI**

**WA3UNX – MD**

**N1DHT – PEX/NH**

Input needed... Join our two “star” reporters, Mike KA5NNG and Jack, KA8WNO and send your comments, criticism, news, photos, address changes, etc., It would be interesting to know what’s going on in your world, traffic handling or otherwise and how you became an Amateur Radio operator. It’s your newsletter.

## **TRAFFIC CALL**

C. L. Berry WD8DIN  
1182 Eastbrook Lane  
Hendersonville NC 28792-6411  
Email: [arfer@hitandbounce.net](mailto:arfer@hitandbounce.net)  
[Injun20@hotmail.com](mailto:Injun20@hotmail.com)