



March 2002

Newsletter of the

Ben White Memorial Nets founded 1938

Hit and Bounce Net ~ Hit and Bounce Slow Net

No. 244

### Hit and Bounce Manager's Report

#### February

Gold stars for everyone...Sixty stations (676 QNI) listed 595 QTC and cleared 582. Average time per session: 37 minutes. Great job!

Perfect attendees were N4ABM and KA8WNO, and weekenders W1KX and WA4DOX. Following were WD8DIN, W2MTA and W0GRW 27 each; NR9K and K2BCL 26, WA3UNX and K8KV 24, K8LJG 23, N1DHT and KK3F 22, WX4H and W2EAG 21, W3JKX, N1OTC and K2GWN 20, K3NNI 19, W8RTN and KA5NNG 18, KX8B 16, AA8PI 15, KA8VWE 14, W4VLL and N9KHD 13, WA2CUW 12, AA4AT 11.

Topping the traffic list is K8LJG with 95 followed by K2BCL 90, KA8WNO 84, W8RTN 33, W2EAG 30, N1OTC 30, N4ABM 28, NG1A 26, WA4DOX 23, N3QA 16, W2MTA 13, KK3F 13, WX4H 12. Your presence is appreciated and welcome, whether or not you bring traffic.

When I took over as editor, a major oversight on my part was failing to number each issue, which I realized while conferring with KA5NNG regarding back issues and he referred to "nr\_". Counting back, 244 should be correct. I am surprised that it wasn't brought to my attention sooner. As always, your comments, pro or con, are always welcome.

#### **ARCHIVE - Traffic Call**

I have back issues of TC dating from 1982, and have received the three missing 1988 issues from Jack, KA8WNO, one of which has an interesting article on the birth of HBSN. (Page 2) Mike, KA5NNG is sending his collection from which he compiled the History Sampler and, hopefully, those will complete the archive.

I ran out of ROOA certificates, but now have new copies, so there will be more issued in the coming weeks. Please let me know if you have one, want a new one, or if you think you should have one -all it takes is a note or radiogram. Lee, W8RTN, was issued a certificate under his old callsign W7LVB, which had no notation of his name. Any others? I'll be happy to issue one under your current callsign. **FYI:** The certificate was drawn by our very talented arfer, **Jack, K2GWN**.

I will be sending more copies of the Ben White Memorial Nets History Sampler also.

Happy Spring! 73, Sis/ARF

### HIT AND BOUNCE SLOW NET MANAGER'S COMMENTS

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

**Charles (Chuck) Punzell, N3ON, Asst. Mgr**

There were twenty-seven greatly appreciated hams who checked in this short month of February. These guys and gal (thank you Sis, WD8DIN) developed a QNI of 356 and a QTC of 142. Perfect attendance awards go to Gail, K2BCL and Don, K2YAI. Close behind were Sam, KG2HA (27); Bill, W2MTA, Cid, W3QQ, and Ad, NR9K (26); Sam, WB5ZJN and Chuck, KX8B (25); Jim, WD8DUH (22); Chuck, N3ON and Fred, NG1A (16); Earle, W3JKX and Andy, N9KHD (15). As always, if you were able to checked in only once, your participation is greatly appreciated. HBSN will not exist unless you are there. Thanks to everyone for your continued participation.

**Welcome:** Welcome back to John, VE3DTR. He has resumed his position as Sunday's NCS. John has been gone for about three months, during much

of that time he was hospitalized. We're glad to hear you back on the air, John. Also, welcome to Dave, K2VX, NJ. We're glad you can be with us, Dave, and hope you will QNI as often as your schedule will allow.

**Recovering:** If you have or have had pets, you know how closely one can become attached to them. In our house, my cats, Lizy and Libby, are "family." Also, family, is Chuck's, N3ON, canine companion, Sunshine. Chuck reports that she is doing well after leg surgery. The rough part for Chuck was to keep Sunshine from gnawing away at the injury during recovery. Chuck had to put in some long vigilant hours while the leg healed.

**What's up?:** So, what's going on in your life? Yes, we're interested. For me it is concerts, rehearsals, meetings – oh, those ubiquitous meetings – and teaching, which keeps getting in the way of my meetings! (If you've ever taught at a university, you'll appreciate and understand what I mean by that statement. HI) I haven't been able to touch my airplane in the past four weeks. BUT, spring break is just around the corner, and I have promised myself that those seven days belong to me and my Taylorcraft, N43502.

Later...Sam, WB5ZJN

#### **Looking back....**

**HOW HBSN WAS BORN....**from TRAFFIC CALL, February 1988 (Editor Kurt Meyers, W8IQ; Mgr, Al Weed, W4DJ)

[In 1973], the Hit and Bounce Net operated daily on 7140 KHz. Suddenly one day, HBN found itself in the Novice band. The former 7150-7200 segment had been shifted to its present 7100-7150 KHz position. The HBN participants decided to stick it out on 7140 KHz, but after several weeks of battling the Novice QRM, a decision was made to head downward to 7070 KHz.

While it was a sensible decision to move HBN to clearer territory, several folks thought we were missing an opportunity by not doing something in the Novice band. It was felt that a Hit and Bounce Slow Net could provide: 1) wider coverage than any existing Novice-band traffic /slow net, 2) provide a morning traffic opportunity in the Novice band, and 3) encourage and groom potential

members for HBN. That's how it happened that the first session of HBSN was held on January 8, 1973.

#### **AA4AT**

Hi-this is Art Thiemens AA4AT. Here is how our family became amateur radio operators.

We gave our son Mark a short wave radio in 1961. He was 11 then. Early in 1962 he came to me and said that he had been listening to amateur radio operators on the short wave radio and wanted to be a ham, and asked me to help him learn Morse Code. I learned code in 1942 in the Air Force, but never used it since, but had not forgotten it.

I bought a J-38 key and a sounder and taught him code. I also bought him a book to learn Novice requirements. When he was about ready to take the Novice test, he said "Dad, why don't you get your license also" So we both took our Novice license then and a little later I got my General Class license. Later, Mark got his General.

Also, our younger son Scott (10 at the time) also wanted to learn, so I worked with him. We now are all extra class operators. Mark is K16IT and Scott is AA4ST. Scott got his extra here soon after he finished Technical school. When Scott got his call sign AA4ST, he suggested I change my call from N4ZP to AA4AT, which I proceeded to do.

Mark did not get his extra until he was a Phd and a professor at UCSD. At that time he went to a hamfest in San Diego and passed the code and written in less than 30 minutes. Today Mark can read code much faster than any of the family. That little short wave radio has given this family a lot of pleasure!!!

**Advice for new traffickers (1960)** from the Ben White Memorial Net Historical Sampler:

"Don't send faster than you can receive. Your opposite number assumes that you can copy at the speed you are sending. Don't forget that your spacing has more to do with making your code intelligible than the dots and dashes put together. Don't be afraid to ask for a fill or QRS...any traffic man worth the name is glad to do either."

-Ben White

HIT AND BOUNCE SLOW NET FEBRUARY REPORT  
C.M. (SAM) SHEARER, WB5ZJN, MANAGER  
CHARLES (CHUCK) PUNZELL, N3ON, ASST.  
MANAGER

QNI - 356 QTC - 142 SESSION - 28

CALL	NAME	STATE	QNI
NG1A	FRED	MA	16
KB1FNF	ANDY	CT	1
W1KX	BILL	ME	9
K2BCL	GAIL	NY	28
W2EAG	MARK	MA	2
KG2HA	SAM	NY	27
W2MTA	BILL	NY	26
K2VX	DAVE	NJ	2
K2YAI	DON	NY	28
N3AO	CARTER	PA	12
N3COR	DON	WPA	8
N3DE	HARRY	MD	5
WA3DUH	JIM	DE	22
KK3F	PAT	MD	1
AA3GV	ERNEST	MD	1
W3JKX	EARLE	EPA	15
WA3JXW	DUDLEY	EPA	8
N3ON	CHUCK	WPA	16
WA3QNT	BOB	WPA	4
W3QQ	CID	DE	26
W4VLL	VIC	VA	3
WB5ZJN	SAM	OH	25
WD8DHC	MIKE	WV	4
WD8DIN	SIS	NC	1
KX8B	CHUCK	OH	25
NR9K	AD	EPA	26
N9KHD	ANDY	WI	15

K2GCE	BILL	NY	8	
WB2GTG	BILL	NY	4	7
K2GWN	JACK	NY	20	1
W2MTA	BILL	NY	27	13
W2RBA	JOE	NY	2	
K2VX	DAVID	NJ	2	
N3AO	CARTER	PA	1	
N3COR	DON	PA	5	
N3DE	HARRY	MD	6	5
KK3F	PAT	MD	22	13
AA3GV	ERNIE	MD	1	
W3JKX	EARL	PA	20	
WA3JXW	DUDLEY	PA	5	2
K3NNI	JOHN	MD	19	
N3QA	CAL	MD	7	16
K3RC	BOB	OH	5	
N3SW	SCOTT	PA	1	
WA3UNX	DON	PA	24	7
WA3YLO	TONY	MD	2	8
N4ABM	OLE	VA	28	28
AA4AT	ART	VA	11	5
WA4DOX	OBIE	VA	8	23
AB4E	A B	NC	1	
WX4H	MORT	FL	21	12
WB4IEA	BOB	KY	1	
AF4QZ	ADAM	SC	1	
W4VFJ	CHAS	NC	3	
W4VLL	VIC	VA	13	
AB4XK	CHET	FL	1	
KA5NNG	MIKE	AR	18	1
K5UPN	JOE	TX	7	
KX8B	CHUCK	OH	16	
WW8D	TOM	WV	3	
WD8DHC	MIKE	WV	5	
WD8DIN	SIS	NC	27	7
K8KV	BEN	MI	24	17
K8LJG	JOHN	MI	23	95
AA8PI	DON	MI	15	4
W8RTN	LEE	MI	18	33
WB8SIW	JIM	MI	2	
KA8VWE	WALLY	OH	14	4
KA8WNO	JACK	WV	28	74
KB8ZYY	RAY	MI	1	3
KB9IOT	DAVID	OH	7	5
NR9K	AD	PA	26	
N9KHD	ANDY	WI	13	1
K9PUI	DICK	IN	1	2
VE9WW	BILL	NB	1	
AB9X	STEVE	IN	1	
WØGRW	GEB	MN	27	

<u>HBN QNI FEBRUARY</u>				
CALL	NAME	STATE	QNI	QTC
NG1A	FRED	MA	5	26
N1DHT	GEORGE	VT	22	
W1KX	BILL	ME	8	
N1OTC	JACK	MA	20	30
W1PEX	DAN	NH	3	
KWIU	MARCIA	MA	5	
K1WU	DALE	MA	2	
K2BCL	GAIL	PA	26	90
WA2CUW	TOM	NJ	12	
W2EAG	MARK	MA	21	30

Welcome new stations Steve, AB9X, IN and Bill,  
VE9WW, NB.



## News and Views

Don, **WB8KPE** sends his regards. He has good news (he still has his rig) and bad news (he is not permitted to put up an antenna at his QTH in PA), but is negotiating with the manager of the mobile home park. We wish you good luck Don, and hope to hear you soon.

A B, **AB4E** sends thanks for all the nice birthday greetings he has received from arfers. He is getting a lot of much needed rest and has good days and bad days. You can send him a radiogram or note - 117 Toney Rd., Bostic, NC 28018. Get well soon, A B! We miss you.

**A Thank you note from WA2YL** ....What a pleasant surprise to receive my certificate from Hit and Bounce Net... and to know I'm a genuine Arfer with all rights and privileges. I feel ashamed that I haven't checked in more often. I'd be there a lot, but mostly the station I copy best is Mort-WX4H. The rest of them are all pretty weak from down here in Florida... The line noise here in Cape Coral is just terrible. It was much better when I was up in NJ, but I have a wierd carrier up there that interferes on several bands. I'll try to get on more often, though ... even without traffic. [Anytime, Jan... always glad to have you. Someone will relay! -Sis]

## **Feedback- Q-signals: de W2MTA**

**WATCHOUT!** These Quasi-Q Signals might derail someone! QDS - QPC - QWW

Agreed, HBN has established use of QPC for a long time and it's well accepted and useful, but Quasi-Q of QDS JUST don't do nothing for nobody -- think about it - N4ABM QDS KA8WNO KA5NNG UP 4 vs. KA8WNO ES KA5NNG UP 4 or N4ABM SEND KA8WNO KA5NNG UP 4 (When condx are rotten) Hmph! QDS indeed! Infrequent times needed anyway, unless doing a QSY to 20 meters with Mort, etc. Now as for Quasi-Q QWW, well why not DE W2MTA QSO KA8WNO? QBE IMI QBE SK!

**Roster revised:** **K2VX**, Dave in NJ has been added, **WB2RPW** is in NY, not NJ, (Sorry, Gary, I

overlooked it- again -while editing). Please remove W1EOF from your list. Marcia informed me that he became a silent key a couple of years ago.

## BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

**MARCH:** 21 N1OTC, 22 W4FRR, 23 W3JKX; 29 WF1M; 31 KB8ZYY. **APRIL:** 5 WA8GZL; 6 WA3UNX; 7 K8KFJ; 21 KF1L; 21 WB4FDT

I just learned that **Adam, AF4QZ's** birthday is **February 1**. Please add his name to your list. If you are not listed, please send your info if you wish. Thank you.

## HELPFUL HINTS FOR TC

- Mark W2EAG

When coming back to net frequency after passing traffic, sign back into the net with your suffix, nothing else, unless you didn't meet your counterpart. The NCS will automatically know you have passed your traffic. It is not necessary to add the word CLR or anything else.

When checking into any CW net, all stations should wait for a callup to do so. Any other time will disrupt the net controls trend to run the net. The key word is patience.

A good practice to sending traffic is before sending the message to the receive station, give your call, and if you have QSK send QSK just previous to the message number of the preable. This might save a lot of time, especially in poor band conditions.

## **PATCHES, ANYONE?**

A while back, Mark suggested that he is willing to look into silkscreening, pricing, etc., to have patches made for HBN members to wear on jackets or caps. They would be nice to wear at hamfests and spread the word about our net...might even get a few new members. We welcome your comments.

## **Change of address: Dan MacDonald W1PEX**

C/o Hunt Community, 10 Allds Street, Nashua, NH 03060 Due to the move to a higher care facility, Dan will no longer be able to send out messages. Let's keep in touch with him. He will be missed on the nets.



**Jessica Dowding, KD7PIO—the Youngest Ham in Utah?** Last December, when most six-year-olds were singing All I Want for Christmas is my Two Front teeth, six-year-old Jessica Dowding of Bountiful, Utah, was hoping for her ham radio ticket.

She'd had some on-air experience with her dad—ARRL Life Member Clark Dowding, N7TDT—during Kid's Day that had helped to whet her appetite. She also comes from a large family of hams, so she knew enough to not expect Santa Claus to provide her ticket. Instead, she took matters into her own hands and—with help from her dad and mom, Melinda, KC7AWQ—she got to work studying the ARRL publication *Now You're Talking*. After many hours of studying and taking on-line practice exams, she was ready to take the real test for her Technician license.

At 8 AM on Saturday, December 8, Jessica arrived at the ARRL VE session sponsored by the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club in Logan, Utah, to take her test. Her dad said everyone on hand just assumed that she was there to provide moral support while he sat for an exam. But when he explained that Jessica was the examinee, all eyes shifted to the grinning youngster.

"Her infectious smile was instantly mirrored by everyone present, and she received many words of warm encouragement from Clyde Best, AC7KN, and the rest of his wonderful VE crew, not to mention from several other kind, hopeful examinees," Clark Dowding said.

Jessica provided her Social Security card and birth certificate as her two forms of identification, "with dad's driver's license thrown in for good measure," Clark Dowding added. Once the paperwork was complete and the \$10 fee paid, her dad relates, she slid in comfortably behind the computer terminal and—other than needing a phone book to sit on—was ready to take the test.

"Several folks commented on their surprise at her ease with the computer," Clark Dowding recalled. "She had no problem typing in her name and address to get the test started."

Sitting 20 feet behind her, her dad says he felt "quite nervous" but at the same time "amused at the excitement" his daughter's presence had generated.

"Twenty grueling minutes passed with Jessica gliding through the questions—grueling for Dad, fun for Jessica," Clark Dowding said. "When she finished, one after another of the examiners came over to stand behind her PC to see how she did. Up finally popped the "Passed" message on screen and, despite other ongoing tests, a previously silent room practically burst with many animated, though whispered, congratulations for Jessica."

Jessica's dad recalls the excited volunteer examiners (VEs) quietly talking with each other about Jessica while the other examinees either smiled with approval or winced with "oh man, if she can do it, I'd better pass this thing" written all over their faces.

The room buzzed. She's the youngest we've ever had! She must be the youngest in Utah! Passed on the first try! You should send her picture into QST!

"It was all very fun to watch," Clark Dowding said, conceding to tears of pride in his eyes when he finally got a chance to hug and congratulate the newest—and youngest—ham radio operator in the family. After posing for several photos for the VEs, Jessica let her mom and the rest of the family know about her success as she and her dad headed off to the Davis County Amateur Radio Club meeting, where her "celebrity-for-a-day status" continued. "Club President Jim Brown, NA7G, asked for any new hams to introduce themselves just after he started the meeting," Clark Dowding said. Applause greeted his announcement that Jessica had passed her Technician exam that morning. She also was invited to assist Brown with prize-drawing duties and got a huge peppermint stick for her wages.

The FCC issued Jessica's new Technician license December 20. She is KD7PIO, and her dad had the honor of being her first contact.

"She says she wants a DCARC name badge to wear to the club meetings where she hopes to become a regular attendee," her dad said. Not unexpectedly, Santa came through later in the month with a new dual-band handheld transceiver that she can call her own.

## Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM, Gets Up To Speed on CW

Bill Carter, KG4FXG, helps 12-year-old Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM, work her way through her first CW contact.



Twelve-year-old Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM, of Lawrenceville, Georgia, has been ramping up her Morse code skills. Recently, while she was operating solo from the

Sci-Trek Museum's W4WOW club station in Atlanta, she received an Official Observer good operator card from a ham in Michigan who was very impressed with her CW skill. Like little Jessica Dowding's father, Andrea's dad, Scott, is a ham--KF4PWI, and both are ARRL members.

Her Elmer, Bill Carter, KG4FXG, who assisted her in mastering CW, says, "She has good code skills and can fly on her own." Although licensed less than two years, Andrea—who now has her General ticket—regularly checks into the Georgia Training Net and assists Clark at the net control station on occasion.

Carter says Andrea also has started an Amateur Radio Club at her school—the Sweetwater Middle School Amateur Radio Club—which meets twice a month, and she volunteers at the Science and Technology Museum of Atlanta. The Alford Memorial Radio Club donated equipment to the Sweetwater club. Andrea, who is in the seventh grade, helps introduce kids to Amateur Radio and teaches them how to send Morse code on practice oscillators that are available.

Andrea says she and her dad went for their General tickets at the same test session. "I took the general written while my dad took the 5 WPM code," she said. "I guess all that studying and practicing paid off, because we both passed!"

She and her dad now have set up their own HF station and antenna using older gear so they can both enjoy CW. Carter says Andrea's

involvement in ham radio is continuing to expand. She's learning more about NTS and now serves as the membership chairperson for GARS. She's also teaching ham radio classes at her school and at Richards Amateur Radio Club. "Andrea taught both classes and did a fine job!" he said.

Nancy Kott, WZ8C, gave Andrea a complimentary membership to FISTS after hearing about her CW accomplishments.

[Andrea and Jessica's stories are featured on the web:  
<http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2002/03/10/1/?nc=1> Andrea tells all about her first CW contact on her web page:  
<http://www.qsl.net/ad4dx/indexAND.html>]

### Treasurer's Report Ole, N4ABM, Treasurer

Balance Feb 8/02	-45.91	
		Contributions :
Feb 23/02		WB2GTG 20
	Balance Feb 23/02	-25.91
Feb 23/02		W1KX 15
Feb 25/02		WØGRW 10
	Balance Mar 1/02	-0.91
Mar 1/02		W3QQ 20
Mar 4/02		KG2HA 15
	Balance Mar 11/02	34.09
Mar 12/02		WA3YLO 15
Mar 12/02		N4ABM 25
	Balance Mar 12/02	74.09

When making contributions, please make checks payable to **Merritt W. Olson, 12106 Stirrup Rd., Reston, VA 20191-2104**. Checks are preferred for purposes of record keeping. Do not send contributions to the editor.

We are most grateful for your contributions.

*SOS was originally proposed as SOE by the Germans. A committee decided otherwise—due to the possible loss of a single dit (E).*

*Vertical: A much-maligned antenna, said by some critics to "radiate equally poor in all directions". This is not true, as many who have built one know. In fact, the vertical can have directional characteristics, and not radiate at all in some directions. ☺*



## **MORE ABOUT FOX SKEDS -KA5NNG**

Received several notes in response to my request for information about the FOX skeds, and would like to share some of it.

### **From K2GWN (ca. WWII):**

"Went to radio school in Bainbridge, Md. We had to copy 'FOX' at 20 WPM in order to graduate. It was 5-letter code groups that had no meaning we knew of."

"I think 'FOX' was a broadcast schedule on specific frequencies at certain times each day, usually lasting about five minutes at a CW speed between 18 & 22 WPM."

"They broadcast important (not necessarily urgent) information such as a harbor closed to traffic, a radio beacon out of service, runway closed for repairs, and other notices of interest to all ports and ships at sea."

"When the transmission was completed, the broadcast station stated: 'next broadcast at (\_\_\_\_)' and signed off."

### **From WA2CUW:**

Tom called my attention to the Z-Code "ZBR", (and was kind enough to provide a listing of the Z-Codes). From that listing: ZBR: Send by

1. Direct (R) method;
2. Broadcast (F) method;
3. Intercept (I) method;
4. Repeat back (G) method;

*From his letter:*

"The Coast Guard main means of CW communications was via the simplex (point-to-point R-direct) method.....However, they did use the Fox or broadcast method....it was used by the Coast Guard icebreakers on their tour of duty to the Arctic or Antarctica.

Upon departure, the icebreaker would originate a message to all parties concerned as to what Naval Radio Station (NSS) they would be guarding so as to have all their messages sent to the icebreaker via the Fox method."

## **Spring Planting**

Tony Young/WA3YLO

Spring is the time to walk the lot  
planning for this "tree"  
Sighting here and measuring there  
to find where it should be

The site is chosen, tools prepared  
and then you dig the pit  
You check the width and then the depth  
to insure a proper fit

Now comes the mix, then garden hose  
It's time to add some water  
'cause if it's planted well, you see  
it will never, never totter

Once it's in, it grows like mad  
but never blooms in flower  
Because, my friends, this gardeners tree  
is a brand new shiny tower

You'll get no shade, no fruit, no leaves;  
not so much as a petal.  
But if the "elements" shine on you  
DX will bloom from the metal.

## **Irish Blessings and Sayings**

'Tis better to buy a small bouquet  
And give to your friend this very day,  
Than a bushel of roses white and red  
To lay on his coffin after he's dead.

\*\*\*

For each petal on the shamrock  
This brings a wish your way-  
Good health, good luck, and happiness  
For today and every day.

\*\*\*

May your blessings outnumber  
The shamrocks that grow,  
And may trouble avoid you  
Wherever you go.

### HBSN 3714 KHz 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	WADOX	Obie

*Photos by K8KFJ (edited for Traffic Call)*

## TRAFFIC CALL

C. L. Berry WD8DIN  
 1182 Eastbrook Lane  
 Hendersonville NC 28792-6411  
[arfer@hitandbounce.net](mailto:arfer@hitandbounce.net)  
[injun20@hotmail.com](mailto:injun20@hotmail.com)