



LARRY FRAZER W4SUS AWARD

People come into our lives and pass through swiftly. A very few come into our lives and remain forever in our hearts. Larry Frazer was one of the very few.

-Jack K2GWN

KW1U

July – September

The W4SUS Award Committee has chosen Marcia, KW1U as the recipient. Marcia is a proven traffic handler. She has proven her skills at many levels in the NTS. Using the Award criteria: Operating procedure, net participation, and traffic handled, she is well deserving of the Award. Congratulations Marcia.

W4SUS Award Committee

Top hounds listing 11 or more were:

KA8WNO 70; K8LJG 49; K2BCL 47; W8RTN 47; NG1A 33; N4ABM 23; W2EAG 12; W2MTA 11 and N3QA 11.

Top attendees: WD8DIN 31; K2BCL 30; WX4H 30; W2MTA 29; N4ABM 28; KA8WNO 27; KK3F 27; NR9K 26; WØGRW 24; KX8B 20; K3MIY 20; W3JKX 19; AA4AT 17; KA5NNG 17; K8LJG 16; W8RTN 15; K8KV 14; WA3UNX 14; K3NNI 14; AA8PI 14.

Best days- May 14 and 18th QNI 25. May 18 and 24, QTC 24. Longest session May 13, 63 minutes and twelve other days, 40 to 60 minutes. Thanks to all NCS and helpers for the nice job you're doing.

Addition to birthday list: Jan, WA2YL, January 20. A very belated Happy Birthday to Jan.

It's a pleasure to have these **new stations** who joined us in May- **N3FDR**, Richard, VA; **K2MKX**, Peter, NY; and **K4IWW**, Will in NC. Welcome, and please drop in as often as possible.

Will is manager of the **Carolinas Net (CN)** which meets twice daily on 8Ø meters, and my QSP for all that NC/SC traffic that I have been taking there. A 4Ø meter loop antenna just "doesn't do 8Ø meters", but we get the traffic passed on 4Ø. Nice to have a direct link now.

It was good to hear **AB4E** again. We look forward to hearing him often.

Thanks, everyone. You're a great crew. 73, ARF, Sis

HIT AND BOUNCE SLOW NET
MANAGER'S COMMENTS

C.M. (SAM) Shearer, WB5ZJN, Mgr.
Charles (Chuck) Punzell, N3ON, Asst. Mgr

There were twenty-nine greatly appreciated hams who checked in this April. We developed a QNI of 414 and a QTC of 129. Perfect attendance award this month once again goes to John, VE3DTR; others close behind were Gail, K2BCL, and Cid, W3QQ (29); Sam, KG2HA (28); Don, K2YAI, Chuck, KX8B, and NR9K (27); Bill, W2MTA and Chuck, N3ON (26); Jim, WA3DUH (26). As always, if you were able to check in only once, your participation is greatly appreciated. HBSN will not exist unless you

Silent Key



K4ZB

1906-2002

Doug became a silent key May 12. He enjoyed amateur radio for 85 years and was a long-time member of the Hit and Bounce Net. A friend to all and a personal friend to some. He will be missed.

HIT AND BOUNCE NET
MANAGER'S COMMENTS

In May, our QNI of 608 from fifty-four different stations listed 393 pieces of traffic and cleared 355. Average time per session 38.9 minutes. Thanks to all for braving the QRN, bringing traffic, and helping when the going was rough.

are there. Thanks to everyone for your continued participation.

News: No news, again, this month. Drop me a note and let me know what's going on in your lives. We'd like to know more about you. Readers of our newsletter comment on how interesting it is to read about fellow members. What are your hobbies? What do you do when you're not on the rig? What trips have you taken lately? How did you get into radio? What other aspects of ham radio do you find interesting? What draws you to participating in CW traffic nets? I think you get the idea. Send me some stuff.

73, Sam, WB5ZJN

HIT AND BOUNCE SLOW NET
MANAGER'S COMMENTS

C.M. (SAM) Shearer, WB5ZJN, Mgr.
Charles (Chuck) Punzell, N3ON, Asst. Mgr

Twenty-seven ARF'ers checked into HBSN this May. These dependable souls generated a QNI of 396 and a QTC of 104. Although there was no one who had perfect attendance, there were several who were very close: Gail, K2BCL, Sam, KG2HA, John, VE3DTR, and Cid, W3QQ (30); Chuck, N3ON (29); Sam, WB5ZJN and Ad, NR9K (28); Jim, WA3DUH (26); Bill, W2MTA and Don, K2YAI (25); Chuck, KX8B (24); Carter, N3AO. 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.

News: Sam, KG2HA, informed me on Monday, June 3, that his brother, Ad, NR9K, had broken his femur and would be in the hospital for a week. We wish Ad a speedy recover and look forward to hearing him back on the net.

QNZ: With the band conditions continuing to be bad, it is even more important that we take a great deal of care to QNZ (zero beat the NCS's frequency). When a signal is weak, even 1 K is enough for you to not be heard. The NCS should not have to rock his RIT back and forth to copy stations trying to check in. It is each persons responsibility to QNZ the NCS's frequency, and, remember, the net frequency is where ever the NCS is. Our net frequency is around, but not on 3714.5 KHz. If your radio has programmable frequencies, you must "tweak" your VFO so you are zero beating the NCS's frequency.

Radio Alignment: Realize that if your radio is out of alignment, you may think you are zero beating a signal, when in actuality you are not. I will not go into the details of radio alignment, but please check your radio periodical and make sure that you transmit and receive frequencies are the same. Radios, even the new ones, are not always accurate and they do change over time.

Code Speed: In almost forty years of teaching musicians how to perform, one thing I have learned is how to teach someone how to practice. I have a saying: "Practice does not make perfect – only correct practice makes perfect." Every time a task is performed incorrectly, we are teaching the muscles and the mind how to perform that task incorrectly. If you want to develop a skill that requires speed and dexterity, like fingering an instrument or sending Morse code, start slowly at a speed at which you can perform accurately and then slowly increase the speed. When you get to a speed at which you are beginning to make errors, slow down a little until you can once again regain accuracy. Then, after a certain amount of practice at a slower speed, increase your speed again. Also, there has been some wonderful research in the past few years on older persons, and one of the things we have learned is that if you can physically perform a task, with proper practice, you can improve that skill -- we are never too old to get better. (Also, did you know that sending CW is an excellent activity for keeping the mind functioning? More about this later.)

- **Errors:** Code speed with a lot of errors is not impressive. What is impressive is accuracy. This is sending characters correctly with properly spacing. If you catch yourself sending an S for an H or 4 for a B, etc., you are probably trying to send faster than your reflexes can control. The only way this can be corrected is by slowing down, practice at a slower speed, and then gradually increase your speed a little at a time.
- **Station checking in:** Our net CW speed ranges from about 16 to 22 WPM. The "gentlemen's" rule is do not exceed the speed of the NCS. If the NCS is sending at 16 WPM then the station that is QNI'ing should send at 16 WPM or slower. If the NCS is sending faster than you can accurately send, do not try and match his speed, but send at a speed at which you can control.
- **NCS's response to checking in station:** The NCS should match the speed of the station

checking in. If a station is operating at a speed that he can comfortably handle (which he should be), and the NCS responds with a speed that is much faster, the station checking in may not be able to copy you, and you'll have to repeat yourself. This will frustrate you, the station checking in, and will waste time.

NCS's speed: An NCS should never send faster than he can copy. If, as NCS, you are sending at 20 WPM, you should be able to easily copy at that speed. Also, remember that if you slow your speed down in poor band conditions you can probably be understood better.

73 Sam WB5ZJN

HIT AND BOUNCE SLOW NET APRIL REPORT

**C.M (SAM) SHEARER, WB5ZJN, MANAGER
CHARLES (CHUCK) PUNZELL, NE0N, ASST.
MANAGER**

QNI 414 QTC 129 SESSIONS 30

CALL	NAME	STATE	QNI
NG1A	FRED	MA	13
KC1DI	DAVE	DE	2
W1KX	BILL	ME	7
K2BCL	GAIL	NY	29
KG2HA	SAM	NY	28
W2JG	JOE	NJ	1
W2MTA	BILL	NY	26
K2VX	DAVE	NJ	5
K2YAI	DON	NY	27
N3AO	CARTER	PA	19
N3COR	DON	WPA	10
N3DE	HARRY	MD	8
VE3DTR	JOHN	ON	30
WA3DUH	JIM	DE	24
KK3F	PAT	MD	2
W3JKX	EARLE	EPA	16
WA3JXW	DUDLEY	EPA	11
N3ON	CHUCK	WPA	26
W3QQ	CID	DE	29
K3RC	BOB	OH	3
WA3YLO	TONY	MD	5
N4ABM	OLE	VA	1
W4VLL	VIC	VA	2
WB5ZJN	SAM	OH	21
KX8B	CHUCK	OH	27
WD8DIN	SIS	NC	13
KA8WNO	JACK	WV	1
NR9K	AD	EPA	27
N9KHD	ANDY	WI	1

HBSN MAY REPORT

QNI 396 QTC 104 SESSIONS 31

CALL	NAME	STATE	QNI
NG1A	FRED	MA	14
W1KX	BILL	ME	5
K1WU	MARCIA	MA	1
K2BCL	GAIL	NY	30
KG2HA	SAM	NY	30
W2MTA	BILL	NY	25
WB2RPW	GARY	NY	1
K2VX	DAVE	NJ	3
K2YAI	DON	NY	25
N3AO	CARTER	PA	21
N3AT	LAMAR	PA	1
N3COR	DON	WPA	10
N3DE	HARRY	MD	2
VE3DTR	JOHN	ON	30
WA3DUH	JIM	DE	26
KK3F	PAT	MD	3
W3JKX	EARLE	EPA	12
WA3JXW	DUDLEY	EPA	10
N3ON	CHUCK	WPA	29
W3QQ	CID	DE	30
K3RC	BOB	OH	2
WA3YLO	TONY	MD	4
WB5ZJN	SAM	OH	28
KX8B	CHUCK	OH	24
K8KV	BEN	FL	1
KA8WNO	JACK	WV	1
NR9K	AD	EPA	28

<u>HBSN 3.714 MHz Daily 7:30 AM</u>		
Sunday	VE3DTR	John
Monday	W2MTA	Bill
Tuesday	NR9K	Ad
Wednesday	WB5ZJN	Sam
Thursday	N3ON	Chuck
Friday	KG2HA	Sam
Saturday	N3COR	Don

HBN QNI MAY

CALL	NAME	STATE	QNI	QTC
NG1A	FRED	MA	8	33
W1KX	BILL	ME	5	
KWIU	MARCIA	MA	10	
K1WU	DALE	MA	7	5
K2BCL	GAIL	PA	30	47
WA2CUW	TOM	NJ	8	2
W2EAG	MARK	MA	7	12
K2MKX	PETER	NY	1	
W2MTA	BILL	NY	29	11
WB2RPW	GARY	NY	5	
K2VX	DAVID	NJ	7	
WA2YL	JAN	FL	3	6
N3COR	DON	PA	10	
N3DE	HARRY	MD	3	
KJ3E	AL	MD	1	
KK3F	PAT	MD	27	8

N3FDR	RICHARD	VA	1	
K3FT	CHUCK	MD	2	6
W3JKX	EARL	PA	19	
WA3JXW	DUDLEY	PA	5	1
K3MIY	RON	PA	20	1
K3NNI	JOHN	MD	14	5
N3QA	CAL	MD	4	11
K3RC	BOB	OH	9	
WA3UNX	DON	PA	14	7
N4ABM	OLE	VA	28	23
AA4AT	ART	VA	17	5
WA4DOX	OBIE	VA	3	3
AB4E	AB	NC	1	
WX4H	MORT	FL	30	4
K4IWW	WILL	NC	5	2
AF4QZ	ADAM	SC	1	
W4VFJ	CHAS	NC	5	
W4VLL	VIC	VA	3	
AC4W	BRIAN	NY	2	
KA5NNG	MIKE	AR	17	2
K5UPN	JOE	TX	7	
KX8B	CHUCK	OH	20	2
WW8D	TOM	WV	3	
WD8DIN	SIS	NC	31	9
K8KFJ	GARIE	WV	2	1
K8KV	BEN	MI	14	9
K8LJG	JOHN	MI	16	49
AA8PI	DON	MI	14	3
W8RTN	LEE	MI	15	47
WB8SIW	JIM	MI	5	
KA8VWE	WALLY	OH	11	1
KA8WNO	JACK	WV	27	70
KB8ZYY	RAY	MI	3	5
WD9F	WOODY	IL	6	
KB9IOT	DAVID	WI	6	1
NR9K	AD	PA	26	2
W9MQN	JIM	WI	11	1
WØGRW	GEB	MN	24	

HBN 7042 KHz 8:30 AM Daily
Alt 7114

Sunday	W2MTA	Bill
Monday	KA8WNO	Jack
Tuesday	WA3UNX	Don
Wednesday	N4ABM	Ole
Thursday	K3MIY	Ron
Friday	WD8DIN	Sis
Saturday	WA4DOX	Obie

Comments

Traffic Handling and Such -- May 25, 2002

I've been having some fun with NNG re Hashifisti Scratchi, that timeworn contributor to the older version of CQ magazine I'll have to review Hashifisti's "clips", they may be applicable in the world of traffic handling too.

It was good to see the comments by Joe, K5UPN, in the May TRAFFIC CALL. It was sure time for someone to comment on the bounds of a traffic

handler when doing his or her turn at the switch. I had not realized that Joe had again returned to some of his previous appointments, such as manager of the CAN Cycle 2 Net. I'm still pondering his opening paragraph... so going to the next paragraph started to get me into it.

Yes, relay operators should not take themselves too seriously, just do the job, if and when you adjudge that the job is legal. There's nothing wrong with sending back a service message to the originator providing positive advice...just don't send the nasties...be tactful, not juvenile. It's amazing how the desire to "flame" seems to be in vogue with so many folks these daze.

Be a responsible amateur radio operator, whether when in the process of originating, receiving, transmitting (relaying) or even when delivering a message to a third party.

In that matter of delivering...a word. Look on it positively, when you use the telephone, smile into that mouthpiece, be pleasant and be clear as you speak slowly to the unsuspecting recipient. Select your introductory words carefully as you explain who you are. Don't, for gosh sakes, sound like a telemarketer! I know you know how they sound. You're selling nothing, your service is for free!

- 73, Bill W2MTA

QST, the magazine.... An opinion...

[Received Apr 24]

Having only discovered my April 2001 QST last week, and taking an hour or two to read everything that was interesting, I have also discovered my May 2001 QST and have also taken an hour or two to read everything that was interesting. One thing that used to hold my attention to QST articles (and to QST in general) were the projects, most of them accompanied by schematic diagrams. This clearly illustrated the "hobby" side of Amateur Radio.

Nowadays, these are few and far between, but now there are a few good articles about radios of bygone days and those schematics can be captivating.

As I look through the May 2001 QST, starting with the cover, the project to convert a Ten-Tec 1210 10-meter to 2-meter transverter for operation on 222 MHz didn't interest me. The BEACONet article didn't interest me. The review of the ICOM IC-910H VHF/UHF multimode transceiver didn't interest me. The article about modeling antenna tuners on your PC didn't interest me.

Don't get me wrong. I read each of these, but they didn't interest me. Why modify a 2-meter transverter

for 222 MHz? Apparently 2-meter SSB isn't that exciting? So 222 MHz SSB is more exciting? Or more popular? Neither. The fact that the article was written was because the author wanted to improve 222 MHz activity in his area. Why not start from scratch and design a 222 MHz transverter? That would be a good "community" project. The BEACONet article closes with the following quote, "This would be an excellent time to set up your BEACONet station and let it run continuously." There's just something about unattended 24/7 Amateur Radio operations that rubs me the wrong way.

The IC-910H appears to be a marginally useful VHF/UHF satellite transceiver, judging by the hits it received by its reviewer, Steve Ford, WB8IMY, who is also highlighted later in the "Happenings" column of this issue as the new QST Editor, succeeding Mark Wilson, K1RO. In the product review, I think the quote which grated me most was, "In a pinch, you can use the UP/DOWN buttons on the microphone for sending CW." I don't think so.

The article about modeling antenna tuners on your PC turns out to be more of a tutorial about how to use the software which is bundled with the latest ARRL Antenna Book. The author, a very capable antenna design fellow, Dean Straw, N6BV, discovers how to write a program in the Windows environment and he highlights some of his discoveries by discussing them in greater detail than he discusses modeling antenna tuners (the last paragraph) and transmission lines. Obviously he is very proud of the software which he has written and for that, the article was interesting, but for its "advertised content", it wasn't. I'm such a curmudgeon. OBIE is such a/an _____.

(fill in the blank with your own remark)

Getting past the cover, to page "Cover II" (as listed in the index of advertisers), Icom is advertising a 1kW contest station. I think the position of the paddle is a bit iffy for most CW ops. No call sign on the ARRL Life Member plaque in the background leads me to think it is an advertising prop and not the real thing. Not interested. Page 1, another ICOM ad, lists 2-meter, and 2-meter/440 MHz dual band radios. It's probably okay to say 2-meter/70-cm in an ad. I think most hams know 70-cm is 440 MHz. Or should. All of these units are FM-only, so they are of no interest to this non-FM guy.

Page 2 really has me puzzled. For the past few years, the battery, especially the rechargeable battery, has taken its place among the antennas and transceivers as an important shack item. Full-color, full page ads detail the exacting specifications of these batteries and their line of chargers/conditioners.

I've opened all of my rigs, but I still can't find any of these batteries, so this page is of no interest to me.

Page 3, another ICOM page, advertises the "World's First Video Scanner!" In a window, "Here are just a few of the many video signals to monitor", it says, "902-928 MHz: Part 15 video equipment; "VCR Rabbits" & wireless security cameras". Warning to users of "VCR Rabbits" - be careful what you "broadcast" around your house. Your next-door neighbor may be using an IC-R3 to watch what you're watching. Certainly of no interest to me.

Skipping the ARRL and Alpha Power ads, on page 8, PRYME lists more FM radios - no interest here. Page 11, ALINCO lists more FM radios - ditto. Page 13, Ten-Tec lists the Jupiter transceiver, apparently designed to capture some of the market from the imports, with fantastic performance features at a fraction of import prices. This was interesting enough that I read the ad three times. This radio may end up on my Christmas wish-list.

High interest. Page 14, the US Navy's Military Sealift Command. I wonder if I'm too old to serve in the USN-MSC. I imagine some of you who have gotten this far probably wish I would enlist - ASAP - HI.

Page 17 really sticks in my craw. I can't swallow their ad. Honestly, who would like to have a 10-meter/12-meter multi-mode transceiver that could easily "go from your shack to your car in minutes."? Ranger Communications does not ring a bell as having been a staunch supporter nor historical manufacturer of Amateur Radio equipment. I think they used to manufacture "other" radios that were marketed to "other" types of communicators who weren't necessarily Radio Amateurs. Regarding a recent post by Benjy, AC4XO, weren't the two most pirated HF bands 10-meters and 12-meters? Wouldn't it be great to flood the market with more 10-meter/12-meter rigs? I don't think so. Negative interest here.

Page 18 is interesting since I see that Martin F. Jue, K5FLU, has acquired yet another company to add to his Starkville, Mississippi operations. Martin, founder and owner of MFJ Enterprises graced the pages of QST many years ago with such things as passive audio filters, then active audio filters, and other such Amateur Radio-related gadgets and he has grown his enterprise to be able to acquire formerly popular companies such as Hy-Gain. MFJ now runs MFJ (of course!), Ameritron, Vecronics and Hy-Gain. My hat's off to K5FLU. More of us should be as successful as he has been. I don't need any new antennas and the format of "MFJ" ads is so unique among ham-ads that I don't generally read them but

this one interested me since I would rather see MFJ acquire a good company and keep it running than to see it die, as so many others have.

Kudos to Yaesu for a two-page HF spread, pages 22 and 23, but I wonder why the 160-10 meter MARK-V, FT-1000MP transceiver is shown with its frequency set to 50.110 and 50.11555 MHz, unless it is a subliminal suggestion to also purchase their FTV-1000 50 MHz transverter, which is highlighted in a separate window. I think the FT-817, 160-10 meters plus 50/144/430 MHz SSB/CW/AM/FM/FM-W rig at 5 watts output and a wide range of input voltages from 13.8vdc all the way down to 8.0vdc (the 8.0vdc is from April 2001 QST Product Review) is a much better candidate for purchase since it can be bought for about \$750. Mixed interest.

Page 26 is fun: THE VECTRONICS HFT-1500 ... "THE FINEST HIGH POWER ANTENNA TUNER MADE". Vectronics, another MFJ company has this way of grabbing you by the seat of your pants. MFJ's ad copy is flowered with bold-type, italic-type, exclamation points, lofty adjectives and adjective phrases, such as "massive", "beautifully crafted", "finest", "highest quality", "heavy duty", "sturdy", "precision", "exclusive", "accurate". It's a shame that they didn't notice that they placed the Vectronics part number VC-300DLP twice in the ad, once where it belongs above the price of the 300 watt antenna tuner and once where it doesn't belong above the price for the HFT-1500 antenna tuner. Forget accurate.

Four schematic diagrams, page 29, an already published Ten-Tec schematic showing the modifications to the T-T 1210 transverter; page 44, a great circuit for charging SLA batteries; page 98, another already published schematic, rescaling the MRX-40 receiver for 80 meters; and page 100, adapted from the 1922 Robertson-Cataract Electric Company catalog. This looks like an interesting circuit but the author warns, "Not all old circuits are legal to run on the air under today's communications laws. Please be careful. Make sure you check your transmitter for spectral purity before attempting to put it on the air." Heck, I'd rather hear the hash from one of these old rigs than to know that radio pirates are using Ranger dual-band 10/12 meter rigs to communicate on our ham bands.

Skipping to page 109, "75, 50 AND 25 YEARS AGO", I offer the following quotes: May 1926 Amateurs give emergency service for railroads when wires are down. But when this craving for DX reaches the proportions of an obsession, when it blinds its possessor to the realization that there are other forms of amateur activity, it is just as bad as

any other form of intemperance. ... the proper use of the semiautomatic key - the "bug" - is discussed in detail. The article ends with the admonition to practice off the air until you can send perfect code for a half hour before you venture onto the air waves with it.

May 1951 The cover photo shows National Emergency Coordinator (and CW traffic man extraordinaire) George Hart, W1NJM, trying out the Civil Defense portable 6-meter phone transceiver that's described in this issue. Don Mix, W1TS, presents Part I of "The Novice One-Tuber" a 6AG7 crystal oscillator coupled via a pi-section output to the antenna, with 11 watts input. This rig is of interest to the prospective hams who want to go for the new Novice license, which will be issued beginning July 1.

May 1976 Doug DeMaw tells how to "Build a Tuna-Tin 2" teeny transmitter (cover story), with a half watt output on 40 meters. It looks like a classic! David Madison, K3ACN, tells about his design for "A PROM for the Accu-Keyer." In "The World Above 50 MHz," Bill Tynan, W3KMY, urges us who work new hams on FM, to encourage them to try other modes, with the hope of sparking their interest in the many facets of VHF and UHF operating. The ham-ads in the trailing part of QST are more to my liking as I can easily bypass the VHF and above, the FM-only, and the NiCd barns from the HF stuff so it doesn't take long to get to Cover III, where Yaesu is selling yet another 2-meter/70-cm FM dual-bander. No interest here.

Finally, Cover IV, Kenwood offering a FREE Goldline Microphone with the purchase of one of the four radios shown. Three of them look rather normal, but I'm really worried about the TS-B2000. Except for the front panel microphone and headphone connectors, there are zero knobs and no visible display. It resembles a giant Zip drive. Is this the future of Amateur Radio? Besides, who wants a gold-plated microphone with a toggle switch mounted to the handle? I don't think so. 73, OBIE...

TID-BITS OF NET PROCEDURE

NCSing: It is always a temptation when running a net to try to clear the longest traffic lists first, but in my opinion, this is not the best approach. Think about how the poor QNI with QTC-1 feels as he is sent off frequency to wait for another station to clear QTC-6. Better to clear traffic starting with the shortest lists and save the longer ones for last.

QNI/QTC: Every traffic handler should have a copy of the ARRL NTS routing guide handy. Even though just about all our traffic is of the junk-mail type, it still seems to me that we should try list it correctly so that it can be more easily routed to the appropriate station. Specifically, with regard to HBN or other "wide-area" nets, traffic should be listed by state. On HBN, traffic for Pennsylvania should be listed as either EPA or WPA since they have two separate section nets. Sending EPA traffic to a WPA station means that the traffic must go through the 3RN to get to the correct section net.

MESSAGE; Every traffic handler should also have a copy of the ARRL "pink card" (FSD-218). You can get them free from your STM or SM or if you really get desperate, I have some here. That is the card with the "QN" signals on one side and the standard NTS message format on the other. The card is meant as a memory aid, so does not have full explanations/details of the message format. Those can be found in the Public Service Communications Manual. Those manuals used to be free or very cheap, but I don't know the current situation so ask your STM or SM. One of the things NOT covered on the pink card is the use of "salutations" (Dear So-and-so) and "complimentary closures" (Love, etc.). They are not recommended (by NTS), but when used, either would be part of the TEXT, and included in the word-count/check.

GENERAL: For those who have never been a NCS, one of the chores that the NCS is charged with is preparing an "after-action" report for the net manager. On HBN, the net report will list the total number of stations who checked into that session, the total number of pieces of traffic listed and cleared, the length of time that the net was directed, and finally a list of the individual stations along with the amount of traffic each one listed. The NCS's report cannot be any more accurate than the information that he gets from each station checking into the net. Therefore, if you decide to send an extra message that perhaps you forgot to list when you checked in; or you decide to QTA a message because you are short of time, do let the NCS know about it so that he can prepare an accurate report.

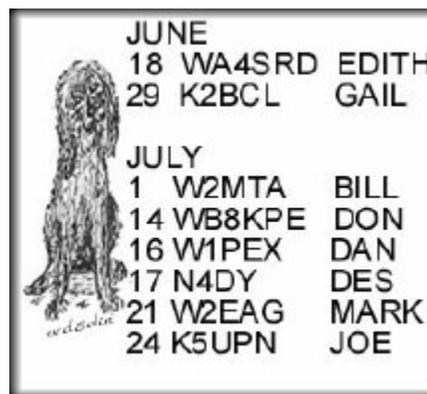
QNY: This is one that seems to need to be repeated at intervals. When two stations are sent QNY to clear traffic, the station who is to receive the traffic picks the exact frequency (as near to the one the NCS designated as possible) and calls the station holding the traffic. The rationale is that since the receive

station must be able to copy the message he should find a "clear" spot. When two stations are sent QNY to "swap" traffic, then the station named first by the NCS does the calling. The receive station should look around the designated frequency for the sending station before giving up and returning to the net frequency. When the traffic is cleared, the stations should return to the net immediately, and not engage in conversation. The NCS may be waiting for you and/or holding another station with traffic for you. If you want a QSO with another station, then simply ask for it, and let the NCS schedule it so that it has the least effect on the operation of the net session.

- KA5NNG

Another tidbit... On twenty meters, the county hunters meet at 14.055MHz, so we should avoid that frequency. -KA5NNG

Birthday Greetings....



**Treasurer's Report
N4ABM, Ole, Treasurer**

Balance May 9/02	70.72
May 21/02	WA2YL 25
May 23/02	AA3GV 20
Balance May 26/02	115.72
Expenditures for Feb/02 TC -76.90	
Balance June 1/02	38.82
Unpaid Bills:	March TC 63.37
	April TC 82.61
	May TC 84.86

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 donations

“R” as decimal... *mystery solved.... In the UK and much of Europe, the symbol “R” is used in place of the decimal point on schematics.*

DEADLINE FOR AUGUST ISSUE

Via USPS: July 31 or Via email: August 4.

I will be away from August 7 (or 8) until August 23 and will need QNG August 9 and 16. Thank you.
73 ARF Sis.



TRAFFIC CALL

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