

TRAFFIC CALL



April ~ June 2010 No. 303

Newsletter of the W4PL Ben White Memorial Net founded 1938

*Hit and Bounce Net M-F 7042 kHz - S-S 7114 kHz 8:30 AM ET
Hit and Bounce Slow Net Daily 3576 kHz 7:30 AM ET*

Traffic Handler's Picnic – August 21 – Sheldon CT - See page 2

A Note from K3RC

Friends, It has been a joy and an honor to serve as NM of HBN. As you can see by my activity reports, my mornings have not been and will not be for some time good for regular QNI to the net. Thus, I feel it is appropriate to tenure my resignation as of June 30.

I certainly do plan to QNI as I have opportunity. I appreciate all the outlets for traffic; and, am certainly open to continue to take traffic for Ohio. I wish all of you and the HBN the very best for the future.

-73 Bob K3RC

A Note from the new HBN Manager, Mark, W2EAG

Hello Arfers. It is indeed an honor to take over the reins as Manager of the Hit and Bounce Traffic Net. We have had many great Managers in the past, and it is because of them, that this net has functioned for so many years, along with the support of its members who diligently check in. So, first things first.

I would like to thank Bob, K3RC for taking the Managership when asked to do so, and when the net was in a time of need. He did a great job, and would have stayed on, except for the fact that private life demands prevented him from doing so. I know we all wish him well and hope that he will QNI every once in a while to let us know how he is doing.

Thanks also goes out to Sis, WD8DIN, for acting as my Assistant, being publisher and editor of Traffic Call, and keeping the history records of the net. She does an excellent job, and I will be working very closely with her.

I have spoken to Will, K4IWW, and he has agreed to keep on as statistician for the net. He says he likes to do it, and he does a great job. It will be a big help to me. All NCS reports will remain going to him. Thanks so much Will, you are making my job that much easier.

Also, Ole, N4ABM, is staying on as our Secretary/Treasurer. If members want to donate to help fray the cost of Traffic Call, the information is posted in the newsletter for that purpose. We still mail out many issues to those who do not have email. Keeping the treasury up is important so members can keep up with what goes on with the net. Thank you Ole, we do appreciate it. *(Continued page 2)*

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Manager, cont....

There are a few things that I plan to do in the near future regarding HBN. Some are in the works already.

1. Determine who are certificate holders. Issue certificates. [If you hold a certificate issued in the past and your callsign has changed, contact W2EAG if you would like another with your current callsign. -Ed.]
2. Contact stations that we have not heard from in a while and encourage activity.
3. Send out welcome letters to the newer stations who have checked in recently.

It is not a secret that many of our members are senior citizens. We all have our aches and pains, good days and bad days. Summer is almost here and folks will be going on vacations etc. To keep HBN running smoothly, we need to make sure that there are enough NCS and alternate NCS. Please let me know if you would like to try your hand at doing an NCS or alternate slot. You don't have to run the net at 28 to 30 wpm. Go at a comfortable pace for you. The hardest part of being an NCS is keeping track of your paired off stations. The rest is simple, and rewarding. Many of you are qualified, so let's hear from you.

If you have not visited the HBN website, you are missing a lot. There you will find you can download Traffic Call, review net history, and so much more. The URL is: <http://hitandbounce.net/> Give it a try.

In closing, I want to thank the members who check into the net and all net control stations for the fine work they do. It doesn't matter if you are there to just to be a relay station, or if you bring traffic into the net. We have a wonderful group of members. If you haven't checked in for a while, please consider doing so when time prevails. We miss those of you who we have not heard in a while. I hope that you have a wonderful, safe summer. Perhaps I will see some of you at the Traffic Handlers Picnic which will be at K1EIC's residence in Shelton CT. this year on August 21st. 73 ARF -Mark W2EAG

News bits.....

W2MTA can be reached by email at the rehab center, if anyone wants to wish him well. You can use: w2mta@juno.com.

Ole, N4ABM, had a new pacemaker installed on June 19. He says that it has a lot more "juice", making him feel a little more like a human being again. Mostly healed up now. They had to make a bigger pouch cause it is twice the size of the last one and he thinks he's a lot better off for the deal. First one was installed in 1982. Second one in 2007. Third one in

2009. The newest one hits two parts of the heart making it pump more efficiently.

WB8KPE: F.Y.I. final day for Comcast email address is July 22nd. [As of 10 July], he has not arranged for a new ISP. New location: Donald J. Brennan, 1700 Warwood Ave. Room 12, Wheeling, WV 26003

TRAFFIC HANDLERS' PICNIC

Saturday August 21

92 Mohegan Road Shelton CT
At the QTH of
Betsey, K1EIC

Details as to directions, lodging, etc., will be forthcoming.

All traffic handlers are invited to attend.

For those who come early, there will be a dinner Friday evening August 20.

Food and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided, however folks can bring their own beer, chips and desserts.

For updates:
<http://hitandbounce.net>

Please RSVP to Betsey, k1eic@arrl.org or to Marcia, kwlu@arrl.net

If anyone needs help with directions or nearby lodging, please contact Betsey.

We think we will have attendees coming from as far as California. Hope to see many of you there. It's nice in New England in summer.

Please let us know if you think you will be here so we can get a head count.

Y'all come!
Thanks.
Marcia KW1U

HBN QNI QTC

HBN April QNI QTC				HBN May QNI QTC				HBN June QNI QTC			
W2EAG	30	N1OTC	204	KA8WNO	31	N1OTC	223	W2EAG	28	N1OTC	232
N4DY	30	K8LJG	93	W2EAG	28	KW1U	58	W1WCG	27	K8LJG	102
K4IWW	29	KW1U	49	W1KX	25	VE3GNA	35	K4IWW	27	KA8WNO	86
KA8WNO	29	N4ABM	28	K4IWW	25	KA8WNO	26	K8KV	27	VE3GNA	69
W1WCG	26	W2EAG	25	N1OTC	24	WB8WKQ	26	WA4BAM	26	KW1U	55
WA4BAM	26	WD4DNC	22	N4DY	24	W2EAG	22	N4DY	26	W2EAG	44
K8KV	26	VE3GNA	18	WA4BAM	21	N4ABM	17	N4ABM	24	WA4BAM	22
N1OTC	25	KA8WNO	16	WD8PNL	20	WA3JXW	6	KA8WNO	24	WB8WKQ	21
W2MTA	25	N4DY	10	W1WCG	19	W1WCG	5	N1OTC	23	N4ABM	14
KK3F	24	WD8Q	7	KK3F	18	K3RC	5	K2TV	23	W1WCG	11
W1KX	23	N3SW	7	K4OSO	17	WD4DNC	5	K8LJG	21	K4IWW	10
N4ABM	22	W2MTA	6	K2TV	16	K8KV	4	W1KX	20	KT2D	10
K8LJG	20	WB8WKQ	6	K8KV	15	W2MTA	4	WD8PNL	19	K8KV	9
K4OSO	19	K3MIY	6	KW1U	13	KT2D	4	K4OSO	15	N4DY	9
K2TV	16	W1WCG	5	WB8WKQ	13	WA4BAM	3	KW1U	14	KK3F	7
WD8Q	14	KT2D	5	W2MTA	12	KA5NNG	3	WA3JXW	14	WD4DNC	7
KW1U	13	W4WXA	5	WA3JXW	12	K4MSG	3	WA2CUW	13	K2TV	6
WA2CUW	12	K8KV	4	K3RC	12	W8IM	3	VE3GNA	13	WD8Q	6
K3RC	12	KA5NNG	4	N4ABM	12	W1KX	2	KA5NNG	13	W1KX	3
KA5NNG	12	W8IM	4	KA5NNG	12	K4IWW	2	W8IM	13	WA3JXW	3
W8IM	11	K4IWW	3	VE3GNA	11	W4WXA	2	WD8Q	13	KA5NNG	3
VE3GNA	10	KK3F	3	K4MSG	11	WD8PNL	1	KK3F	12	WD8PNL	2
WB8WKQ	10	K2TV	3	W8IM	11	K2TV	1	WB8WKQ	10	WA2CUW	2
WA3JXW	7	K3RC	3	KT2D	10	WA2CUW	1	K4MSG	9	K4OSO	1
WD4DNC	7	WA4BAM	2	WA2CUW	9	WD8Q	1	WB8KPE	8	W8IM	1
K3MIY	6	W1KX	2	WD8Q	8	N9NY	1	KT2D	7	K4MSG	1
KT2D	5	WB8RFB	2	WB9JSR	5	N4DY	0	N0SPY	4	K3RC	1
WD8DIN	5	K4OSO	1	K5NER	3	KK3F	0	KC1DI	4	W4WXA	1
K4MSG	4	WA3JXW	1	WD8DIN	3	K4OSO	0	W2PL	3	WB8KPE	0
W4WXA	4	WA2CUW	0	N3SW	2	WB9JSR	0	K3RC	3	N0SPY	0
WB8RFB	3	WD8DIN	0	K5KV	2	K5NER	0	N3SW	2	KC1DI	0
N3SW	2	K4MSG	0	WB8KPE	2	WD8DIN	0	WD4DNC	2	W2PL	0
K4BG	2	K4BG	0	K3MIY	1	N3SW	0	N0HT	1	N3SW	0
KC1DI	1	KC1DI	0	K4BG	1	K5KV	0	KR3E	1	N0HT	0
W5JBV	1	W5JBV	0	WD4DNC	1	WB8KPE	0	WB4EDB	1	KR3E	0
WD8DHC	1	WD8DHC	0	WB4FSF	1	K3MIY	0	WB4FDT	1	WB4EDB	0
WB8KPE	1	WB8KPE	0	KA4KSB	1	K4BG	0	WB4FSF	1	WB4FDT	0
WB8SIW	1	WB8SIW	0	W4VFJ	1	WB4FSF	0	W4VFJ	1	WB4FSF	0
WB9JSR	1	WB9JSR	0	W4WXA	1	KA4KSB	0	W4WXA	1	W4VFJ	0
				WD8DHC	1	W4VFJ	0	K5NER	1	K5NER	0
				WB8RFB	1	WD8DHC	0	K7IFG	1	K7IFG	0
				N9NY	1	WB8RFB	0	AL7LV	1	AL7LV	0
								K9PUI	1	K9PUI	0

HBN QNS APRIL – JUNE

April	QNI	QTC	May	QNI	QTC	June	QNI	QTC
KC 1DI	1	0	W 1KX	25	2	KC 1DI	4	0
W 1KX	23	2	N 1OTC	24	223	W 1KX	20	3
N 1OTC	25	204	KW 1U	13	58	N 1OTC	23	232
KW 1U	13	49	W 1WCG	19	5	KW 1U	14	55
W 1WCG	26	5	WA 2CUW	9	1	W 1WCG	27	11
WA 2CUW	12	0	KT 2D	10	4	WA 2CUW	13	2
KT 2D	5	5	W 2EAG	28	22	KT 2D	7	10
W 2EAG	30	25	W 2MTA	12	4	W 2EAG	28	44
W 2MTA	25	6	K 2TV	16	1	W 2PL	3	0
K 2TV	16	3	KK 3F	18	0	K 2TV	23	6
KK 3F	24	3	VE 3GNA	11	35	KR 3E	1	0
VE 3GNA	10	18	WA 3JXW	12	6	KK 3F	12	7
WA 3JXW	7	1	K 3MIY	1	0	VE 3GNA	13	69
K 3MIY	6	6	K 3RC	12	5	WA 3JXW	14	3
K 3RC	12	3	N 3SW	2	0	K 3RC	3	1
N 3SW	2	7	N 4ABM	12	17	N 3SW	2	0
N 4ABM	22	28	WA 4BAM	21	3	N 4ABM	24	14
WA 4BAM	26	2	K 4BG	1	0	WA 4BAM	26	22
K 4BG	2	0	WD 4DNC	1	5	WD 4DNC	2	7
WD 4DNC	7	22	N 4DY	24	0	N 4DY	26	9
N 4DY	30	10	WB 4FSF	1	0	WB 4EDB	1	0
K 4IWW	29	3	K 4IWW	25	2	WB 4FDT	1	0
K 4MSG	4	0	KA 4KSB	1	0	WB 4FSF	1	0
K 4OSO	19	1	K 4MSG	11	3	K 4IWW	27	10
W 4WXA	4	5	K 4OSO	17	0	K 4MSG	9	1
W 5JBV	1	0	W 4VFJ	1	0	K 4OSO	15	1
KA 5NNG	12	4	W 4WXA	1	2	W 4VFJ	1	0
WD 8DHC	1	0	K 5KV	2	0	W 4WXA	1	1
WD 8DIN	5	0	K 5NER	3	0	K 5NER	1	0
W 8IM	11	4	KA 5NNG	12	3	KA 5NNG	13	3
WB 8KPE	1	0	WD 8DHC	1	0	K 7IFG	1	0
K 8KV	26	4	WD 8DIN	3	0	AL 7LV	1	0
K 8LJG	20	93	W 8IM	11	3	W 8IM	13	1
WD 8Q	14	7	WB 8KPE	2	0	WB 8KPE	8	0
WB 8RFB	3	2	K 8KV	15	4	K 8KV	27	9
WB 8SIW	1	0	WD 8PNL	20	1	K 8LJG	21	102
WB 8WKQ	10	6	WD 8Q	8	1	WD 8PNL	19	2
KA 8WNO	29	16	WB 8RFB	1	0	WD 8Q	13	6
WB 9JSR	1	0	WB 8WKQ	13	26	WB 8WKQ	10	21
			KA 8WNO	31	26	KA 8WNO	24	86
			WB 9JSR	5	0	K 9PUI	1	0
			N 9NY	1	1	N ØHT	1	0
						N ØSPY	4	0

HBN			
APR	2010	2009	2008
QNI	515	501	565
QTC	544	570	695
QSP	518	548	620
QND	988	1043	1024
Sess	30	30	30

HBN			
MAY	2010	2009	2008
QNI	456	520	551
QTC	463	527	777
QSP	457	506	712
QND	868	968	1131
Sess	31	31	31

HBN			
JUN	2010	2009	2008
QNI	498	502	451
QTC	738	640	554
QSP	722	598	523
QND	1074	934	898
Sess	30	30	30

Treasurer's Report
Ole, N4ABM, Treasurer
Balance 12/26/2009 \$374.47
Balance 1/1/2010 \$374.47
Pd po/pr 2/5/2010 (\$46.56)
Balance 2/5/2010 \$327.91
Pd po/pr 4/25/2010 (\$54.87)
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**THURSDAY NCS NEEDED FOR HBN
CONTACT MARK W2EAG**

RANDOM RECOLLECTIONS OF AN OLD HAM
-by George Hart WINJM

A journalistic history of the life and times in the Amateur Radio world of George Hart, WINJM

Chapter 33 - George settles in his new position with the ARRL.

"Well," he said, after inviting me to sit down, "it's definite, Huntoon is going to the Coast Guard, and you're going to be our new Acting Communications Manager. You should have been appointed when Ed Handy left, but the Board didn't think you could handle the job. Can you?"

"I'm sure I could KB," I said. Everybody called him KB except the non-ham office personnel. "There isn't that much to it, now that we're off the air. But I have another job, now. I'm going to teach code at a Navy school in Pennsylvania. He stared at me and I felt exceedingly uncomfortable. "How come I didn't know about this?" "I didn't know about it myself until yesterday, when I received a telegram from them. I'm to report for work in three days. I was going to inquire about a leave of absence today." KB's stare bore right through me. "Do you think you'll get it?"

"I don't see why I shouldn't," I said, with my voice shaking a little. "You gave Joe Moskey and others who went into war-related industry leaves of absence." "That was different. Teaching code isn't exactly an industry."

"That's what John Huntoon will be doing isn't it?" "Yes, but he'll be in the Coast Guard, a military service. You'll remain a civilian, won't you?" He didn't give me a chance to reply. "You expect to return here after the war?" "I'd like to have the option," I said, then added in a low voice, "but not if I'm not wanted." "Did this school in Pennsylvania offer you a draft deferment?"

"They said they'd try and there was a good chance, but they couldn't guarantee anything." "Of course not. Are they paying more than you're getting here?" "A little. Not much." "Have you liked working for the League?" I shrugged. "Very much. Amateur radio has been a big part of my life, and the League is amateur radio. That's why I want to come back. This Pennsylvania job is only for the duration."

"Or less. When the need for CW operators runs out, they'll probably close the school. Have you thought of that?" I hadn't thought of much of anything, except that I wanted to get out of this headquarters where it appeared I wasn't really wanted and had little future. But it was my own fault, I felt. Joe Moskey was right; if you don't push yourself, you'll never get anywhere; and I wasn't the pushy type. I sat mute, not answering

his question. He turned and looked out the window of his corner office onto La Salle Road and busy Farmington Avenue thoroughfare half a block away.

"Do I remember that you're a college graduate?"

"Yes, Penn State. I graduated in 1936 and got my master's degree in 1939." "Electrical engineering?" "No. English composition. I consorted with a lot of engineers at W8YA, though." "That's where Doc Woodruff teaches, isn't it?" "Yes. I didn't see much of him though. Gil Crossley, an instructor, runs the station." "And yet, with two college degrees you took a job as second operator at W1AW at what – twenty-five bucks a week?" "Twenty-two when I started. I'm doing a bit better than that now." He continued looking out the window while I sat there nervously fidgeting.

"George," he said, finally. "You said something a while ago about being wanted. You're not only wanted, you're needed. The League is starting to break up. Almost half the staff has left, either drafted or in defense industry. "We have an important job to do in civil defense communication which is essential to the war effort, but we can't do it if all our best people leave. John Huntoon, as acting communications manager, was slated to undertake some important federal government contacts which would put us in good stead to assist the government in supplying crucial civil defense communications by those amateurs not eligible to serve in the Army or Navy."

"The draft won't catch up to you for at least another year. If you stay on, I'll up your salary to quite a bit more than that school will give you; and if the draft does catch up to you, I'll get a hearing before your draft board. "By that time, if all goes well, we'll be well established in federal government circles, and I think we'll have as good a chance as that school in getting you deferred, maybe better. What do you say?"

I was astounded to hear his voice break a couple of times as he made this offer. It made me realize how dedicated this man was to the League, amateur radio and the war effort. I said I'd have to think about it. I had already decided to go to Pennsylvania. Now I had another decision to make. I had thought Louise would be delighted to be in Hollidaysburg for the duration; it was much nearer to Coudersport than Hartford, but she didn't want to give up our nice little house in Newington. I had given her the impression that we could rent it for the duration and return to it after the war and, although reluctant, she had agreed to this. Now, with this new development, we could remain where we were, and she was delighted.

There still remained the threat of the draft. We had heard that they were starting to draft young married men without children. We wanted children, eventually,

but we had decided to wait until the war was over. Even if we started a child now, it would not change my draft status. I would still be childless as far as my draft status was concerned. I wired the Keystone Schools turning down the job. It turned out to be a good decision. KB would not have given me a leave of absence and when the war ended or the Keystone Schools ceased operation, whichever came first, I would be without a job. The crisis was over - temporarily, anyway, I became acting communications manager of a department of two people. -- Lillian Salter and myself. Lil was a spinster lady who had been Ed Handy's stenographer and, you might say, interpreter, for several years prior to my arrival on the scene. She was very small, had a fiery temper, very little executive ability, a great deal of expertise in typing and figuring out Ed's dictation and rough-drafting. Dictation was done on dictaphones using wax cylinders. Ed dictated most of his correspondence on these cylinders and Lil had the task of playing them back and transforming them into letters, which she would then take into his office for signature.

I had occasion to listen to one of these cylinders once and marveled at her ability to make sense out of them.

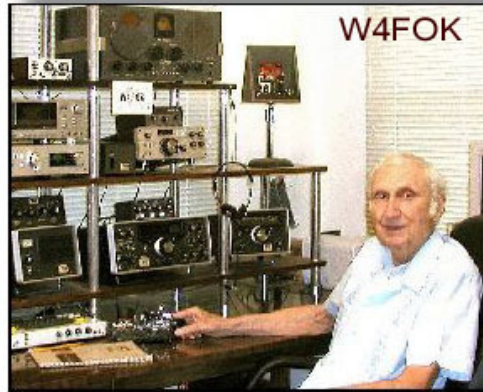
Not only was the quality inferior, but Ed talked in machine-gun fashion in his high-pitched voice interspersed with frequent throat-clearing, ums, ahhs, and coughs. Incredibly, Lil seldom had to inquire of him just what he was trying to say. When Ed rough-drafted a bulletin or a piece of expository writing, he pounded it out on his old No. 5 Underwood typewriter, single-spaced; after which he would go over it with soft pencil, crossing out parts and adding text here and there by scribbling in the narrow margins with lines and arrows showing where the substitute text was supposed to fit. Quite often he would run out of margin, and would scribble or type on a narrow strip of paper which he would then staple to the sheet. Lil once showed me a sheet from a rough-draft bulletin which he had just given her to be put into page form. It looked like a paper spider, a sheet of 8-1/2 by 11 paper with illegible scribbling all over it with several streamers stapled onto it. I never thought they paid Lil enough for the kind of work she did. I probably wasn't too easy a boss to work for by ordinary standards, but after Ed Handy, Lil must have found working for me a great relief.

Coming in Chapter 34 - The ARRL Apparatus Bureau.

H B S N

HBSN Totals April				May				June			
K2TV	14	1		K2TV	14	4		K2TV	17	2	
K3IN	5	1		K3IN	5	0		K3IN	13	1	
KG2HA	20	0		K3ZYK	1	0		K3RC	1	0	
KK3F	23	2		KB2ETO	10	0		KB2ETO	7	0	
KT2D	7	9		KG2HA	26	0		KG2HA	21	0	
N1JX	24	2		KK3F	4	0		KI8U	1	0	
N4ABM	4	2		KT2D	5	2		KK3F	6	2	
N9KHD	20	0		N1JX	27	0		KT2D	7	6	
VE3GNA	17	49		N4ABM	3	0		N1JX	24	2	
W1KX	20	0		N9KHD	2	0		N4ABM	5	0	
W2EAG	14	0		NX8A	1	0		N9KHD	1	0	
W8CPG	1	0		VE3GNA	6	22		VE3GNA	13	37	
WA2CUW	9	1		W1KX	24	2		W1KX	19	0	
WA3JXW	15	10		W2EAG	5	0		W2EAG	7	0	
WB2GTG	21	9		WA2CUW	8	2		WA2CUW	6	3	
WB8WKQ	7	1		WA3JXW	24	12		WA3JXW	26	31	
WD8DHC	2	0		WB2GTG	25	15		WB2GTG	12	4	
WD8Q	20	7		WB8WKQ	10	10		WB8WKQ	6	1	
				WD8DHC	1	0		WD8Q	17	10	
				WD8Q	12	3		WD8Q	17	10	
Total sessions:	30			Total Sessions:	31			Total sessions:	30		
Total QNI:	254			QTC	72			Total QNI:	209		
Total QTC:	93			QNI	213			Total QTC:	99		
Total Time:	748			QTR	689 mins			Total Time:	661		
Avg tfc/sess:	3			Rate Tfc/time: .104 msg/min				Tfc/session:	3.3		
Avg tfc/time:	.124 msg/min			Avg Tfc/session: 2.32				Rate tfc/time:	.150 msg/min		

"Telegraphy in Action" authored by Jim Farris (W4FOK) was published in the number 54 edition of "Morsum Magnificat" in October 1997.



Jim Farris W4FOK

**Telegraphy in Action
Paragraph 1**

Submitted by Ron WD8PNL

For a number of years I took a small amateur radio rig with me into the jungles of Central America, where I participated in archaeological digs. My amateur radio call, W4FOK, was issued in 1938, and I operated as W4FOK/TG in Guatemala, and as W4FOK/V3 in Belize. My little rig, a Ten-Tec Century 22, has an output of only 20 watts, and no voice capability. The transceiver, keyboard, keyer paddle, a.c. power supply, antenna tuner, a 20/40/80 meter antenna system, tools, manuals, and spare parts, all fit in a small case which is carried aboard the aircraft. In each year of jungle operation, approximately 100 messages were handled by radio amateur volunteers in various parts of the U.S. Notably among those who nearly always met the regular evening schedule were W4EQE, NS5H, WD8PNL, N8GDO, and W9CN. Often there were others. Most of the messages handled were personal messages for the staff, but a number dealt with emergencies, mostly medical. All were handled promptly and accurately, and this could not have been done using voice due to the low power, the primitive antenna, and the congested state of the amateur radio bands. *To be continued*

Of the five folks who met the regular evening schedule, today only two of us survive: Martha "Marty" Morrison (NS5H), and myself (WD8PNL). I'm happy to say that the author Jim Farris (W4FOK) also survives.

ZUT

ZUT means "CW Forever!" The Z-code was widely used by the military on both CW, RTTY and landline TTY circuits. The U.S. Coast Guard radiomen (a rating that no longer exists in the USCG) were a tight-knit group (the entire USCG itself has fewer members than the NYPD has police officers, BTW), and with the demise of code in the Guard, ZUT was adopted as the unofficial Z-code signal for those who loved CW.

The Guard kept a continuous 80 year watch on 500 kHz (600m), the international maritime CW calling and distress frequency. 73 and ZUT! Jeff KH6OO (former USCG CW op at Coast Guard Radio Honolulu: NMO)

<http://www.qsl.net/n9bor/morse.htm>

**N1OTC
"Busy At Work"
Submitted by Marcia
KW1U**



NCS ROSTER

HBN

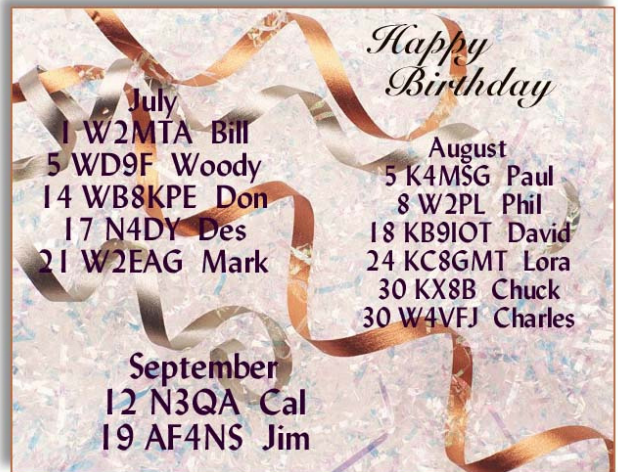
Sunday Jack KA8WNO
Monday Bill W2MTA
Tuesday Mark W2EAG
Wednesday Ole N4ABM
Thursday >>OPEN<<
Friday Glenn VE3GNA
Saturday Marcia KWIU

HBSN

Sunday Dudley WA3JXW
Monday Henry WD8Q
Tuesday Glenn VE3GNA
Wednesday Ole N4ABM
Thursday Arnold N1JX
Friday Bill WB2GTC
Saturday Bob KT2D



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June-Becoming-July

June 30

The calendar is a reminder but not a necessity. You know it is June-becoming-July, even with your eyes closed, when you smell the too-sweet milkweed blossom at the country roadside. You know what time it is by the season's clock when you hear the first harvest fly buzz to its shrilling climax and run down to a hiss and a dull drone. You listen to the oriole and the tanager and the exuberant robin at dawn and again at dusk, but seldom in the warm hours between.

Walk the open fields before the heat of the day has settled on them and you smell the old, old tang of mint and bee balm and yarrow. Stand at the garden fence before the bees have gathered for their day's work and the spiced fragrance of old-fashioned pinks is a sweet reminder of the season. Stand there at dusk and you will know the perfume of nicotiana and the soft flight of dark moths hovering at the nectary blossoms. Linger as the first stars appear and you will be in the midst of a firefly galaxy.

It is a sensible time, in the root-sense of that word. The senses are piqued and quickened by the smells and sounds and subtle presences of early summer. It is a lively, teeming world, too busy to watch any calendar except that of the sun and the long, lingering daylight hours of summer growth and summer abundance.



July

July 1

July is the first real month of summer, the pause toward which all the haste and energy of spring were hurrying us. Days are long, dusk comes late, nights bring a sense of leisure. Country roadsides are sweet with clover and the drone of bees no longer has the frenzy of May and apple blossoms. Daisies and black-eyed Susans decorate but don't yet dominate hillside pastures. Fence-rows are pink with sweetbrier, aromatic in leaf as well as blossom.

July dawns on lake or river can be gauzy with mist and glowing beauty, a special bonus for quiet fishermen. July afternoons can roar and rumble with thunderstorms that slash the sky, shake the hills, and drench the valleys. July nights can be as cool as May, as sultry as late August, and they are lit with more fireflies than stars.

The pressure eases, now, in all growing things; and man is invited to ease his pressures too, beneath a tree, on the deck of a sailboat, on the sand where the surf sets its own rhythm. August will come soon enough, and September, and autumn. Here is July, and summer.

*From Hal Borland's
Twelve Moons of the Year*