

New Jersey Traffic Bulletin

Spring 2002 ----- Vol.24 Nr.2

NJTB is published for the Traffic Handlers of Northern and Southern New Jersey and their friends, with news of the HF and VHF Traffic Nets in the Garden State, since 1978.

SPECIAL NOTE: Beginning May 1, new procedures for PSHR are adopted which will affect your PSHR reports on June 1. The details are inside. Please note that Category 2 gives you up to 40 points for NTS message handling, using the same counting criteria as for your normal monthly Station Activity Reports. Please read the instructions for the NEW PSHR very carefully. If you have any questions, please ask.

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Statewide NNJ / SNJ Section Nets (HF)

New Jersey Morning Net (NJM) 3.695 MHz, 10am Fri/Sat/Sun, WA2OPY Mgr.

New Jersey Net (NJN) 3.695 MHz, 7 & 10pm Daily, AG2R Mgr.

New Jersey Phone Net (NJPN) 3.950 MHz, 6pm Daily, 9am Sun, W2CC Mgr.

New Jersey Slow Net (NJSN) 3.715 MHz, 6:30pm Daily, K2PB Mgr.

NNJ Local Nets (VHF/UHF)

Central Jersey Traffic Net, 147.120 +, PL162.2, 8pm Daily, KB2VRO Mgr.

New Jersey VHF Net (early), 146.895 -, PL151.4, 7:30pm Daily, N2RPI Mgr.

New Jersey VHF Net (late), 146.700 -, PL141.3 (Weds 146.895-), 10:30pm Daily, N2OPJ Mgr

Union County Traffic Net, W2NJR linked repeaters, 10pm M-F, KY2MMM Mgr.

SNJ Local Nets (VHF)

Cape May County NTS Net, 147.285+, PL146.2, 9pm Su/Tu/Th, 10am Sat, KB2YJD Mgr.

Jersey Shore ARS Traffic Net, 146.910 -, PL127.3, 7:30pm Daily, K2ATQ Mgr.

South Jersey Traffic Net, 145.470 -, and 147.150+, PL127.3, 8pm Su/M/W/F, KB2RTZ Mgr.

South Jersey VHF Net, 147.345 +, no PL, 10:30pm Daily, WB2UVB Mgr

Active Membership Roster, HF Section Nets

P=NJPN, C=NJN, M=NJM, S=NJSN

<u>call</u>	<u>name</u>	<u>town</u>	<u>county</u>	<u>nets</u>
KC2 ANN	Wayne	W. Caldwell	Essex	PCMS
N2 ATJ	Connie	Kingston	Somerset	P
W2 CC	Dave	Englewood	Bergen	P
WA2 CUW	Tom	Cherry Hill	Camden	CM
K2 DBK	David	River Vale	Bergen	P
WA2 EPI	Sam	Dover	Morris	P
WB2 FTX	Dave	Butler	Morris	P
N2 GJ	Gerry	Kingston	Somerset	PCMS
K3 GNZ	Skip	Manalapan	Monmouth	P
W2 JG	Joe	Waldwick	Bergen	CMS
N1 JX	Arnold	Roseland	Essex	PC
WB2 KNS	Bob	Morganville	Monmouth	P
W2 MTO	George	Parsippany	Morris	PCMS
W2 MW	Kurt	Oak Ridge	Morris	P
W2 NTS	Ed	E. Brunswick	Middlesex	C S
WA2 OPY	Jan	Kearny	Hudson	CM
K2 PB	Pat	Plainsboro	Middlesex	CMS
WA2 PCS	Matt	Oak Ridge	Morris	PCM
WA2 QHA	Joe	E. Brunswick	Middlesex	S
AG2 R	Gene	Parsippany	Morris	PCMS
NG2 R	Dick	Turnersville	Gloucester	P
W2 RQ	Bill	Andover Twp.	Sussex	P
W2 RWB	Rich	Toms River	Ocean	P
K2 SO	Steve	Elizabeth	Union	PC
N2 SU	Bob	Clifton	Passaic	C
AA2 SV	Willie	Brick	Ocean	CMS
K2 UL	Dan	Hamilton Square	Mercer	PCMS
KB2 VRO	Jim	Bridgewater	Somerset	P
WB2 VUF	Bob	Morris Plains	Morris	CM
K2 VX	Dave	Newark	Essex	PCM
W2 VX	Bob	Ridgewood	Bergen	PC

Out-Of-State

K2 ABX	Paul	NY		S
KA1 GWE	Anna	CT		S
K8 LEN	Pat	IN		S
KG4 OTL	Andrew	VA		S
WA2 SEI	Ray	NY		PCM
W4 VLL	Vic	VA		S
WA2 YL	Jan	FL		PCMS
KC4 ZHF	Bob	FL		C S

The New PUBLIC SERVICE HONOR ROLL

From: Steve Ewald, WV1X, ARRL Headquarters

Starting May 1, 2002, a new season for the Public Service Honor Roll (PSHR) begins! It has been eleven years since the qualification criteria were last revised.

New PSHR Categories

1) Participation in a public service net -- 1 point, maximum 40.

A public service net is one that is regularly scheduled and handles Amateur Radio formal messages. Here are examples of public service nets: Local and section nets that are affiliated with the National Traffic System (NTS); NTS region, NTS area, and independent nets that handle traffic; ARES, RACES, SKYWARN nets that meet on a regular basis; net sessions that are activated during emergencies and threats of potential emergencies; public service and safety nets; nets that are established for training radio amateurs in public service and emergency communications.

2) Handling formal messages (radiograms) via any mode -- 1 point for each message handled; maximum 40.

A "handled" message is defined as a message that is originated or sent or received or delivered. PSHR will follow the same method as Brass Pounders' League to count an individual operator's traffic total (also known as station activity report) to reach the figure for the new PSHR Category 2. There is one point granted for each message handled; maximum 40 points per calendar month. *Editor's Note: the counting of points is intended to be EXACTLY the same as the counting method for the monthly Station Activity Reports*

Here is a reference from the Public Service Communications Manual on how to count messages. [Section 2, NTS Chapter 10.2] <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/pscm/sec2-ch10.html#2>

Originated--One point for each message from a third party for sending via your station. This "extra" credit is given for an off-the-air function because of the value of contact with the general public.

Sent--Every message sent over the air from your station to another amateur receives a point in this category. Thus, a message that is eligible for an Originated point as above receives another point when it is sent on the air.

Likewise, a message that is received on the air conveys a Sent point when it is relayed to another station. A message that you initiate yourself, while it gets no Originated point, gets a Sent point when cleared. All Sent points require on-the-air sending.

Received--A message received over the air gets a Received point, whether received for relaying (sending) or for delivery to the addressee. Any message received which is not eligible for a

Delivery point (such as one addressed to yourself) is nevertheless eligible for a Received point.

Delivered--The act of delivery of a message to a third party receives a point in this category, in addition to a Received point. This is strictly an off-the-air function and must be coupled with receipt of the message at your station. Thus you can't get a Delivered point unless you first get a Received point.

Further example for clarification: If I send a message originated on behalf of myself, I know I get only one point for a message SENT. However, if I originate a message on behalf of a third party, and then send it, I get TWO points, (origination and sending), even though ONE message was handled.

3) Serving in an ARRL-sponsored volunteer position: ARRL Field Organization appointee or Section Manager, NTS Net Manager, TCC Director, TCC member, NTS official or appointee above the Section level. -- 10 points for each position; maximum 30.

More information about the structure of the NTS and the positions and nets that are mentioned in this article may be found in the ARRL's Public Service Communications Manual. It is ARRLWeb at <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/pscm/>

4) Participation in scheduled, short-term public service events such as walk-a-thons, bike-a-thons, parades, simulated emergency tests and related practice events. This includes off-the-air meetings and coordination efforts with related emergency groups and served agencies. -- 5 points per hour (or any portion thereof) of time spent in either coordinating and/or operating in the public service event; no limit.

This category recognizes the value of public safety communication events that Amateur Radio is often called to participate in. Simulated emergency tests, exercises, and drills are covered by this category. Points are gained by the amount of time that an Amateur Radio operator spends directly involved in operating the event. This also recognizes the value of off-the-air time it takes to meet with the organization or public service agency to plan and coordinate Amateur Radio involvement.

5) Participation in an unplanned emergency response when the Amateur Radio operator is on the scene. This also includes unplanned incident requests by public or served agencies for Amateur Radio participation. --5 points per hour (or any portion thereof) of time spent directly involved in the emergency operation; no limit.

This category recognizes an Amateur Radio operator who is directly involved in an actual emergency operation. This includes the operator who is on the scene or out in the field, in the shelter, at the emergency operations center, at the hospital, or other served agency's headquarters or their temporary command center.

The second sentence of Category 5 invites the Amateur Radio operator who is an active participant in an unplanned incident -- or in other words, an emergency operation-- to take credit for his/her participation even though he/she is not physically at the emergency scene.

The intent behind Category 5 is to also include the Amateur Radio operators -- like net controllers, net operation and other radio amateurs that support communications in unplanned incidents-- that are not actually on the emergency scene or at the shelter, etc, but are spending time and efforts for supporting the same emergency communication efforts.

6.) Providing and maintaining a) an automated digital system that handles ARRL radiogram-formatted messages; b) a Web page e-mail list server oriented toward Amateur Radio public service -- 10 points per item.

The portion, "a," is a carry-over from the previous PSHR criteria as this sub category recognizes the efforts it takes to provide and maintain an automated digital system (like a packet bulletin board or a PACTOR system) that handles ARRL radiogram-formatted messages.

The portion "b," is a new item. Since the last time PSHR criteria were revised, newer technologies like Web pages and e-mail list servers have become popular and effective ways to communicate news and information to the community of radio amateurs that are involved in emergency and public service communication operations and preparedness.

Starting May 1, 2002

The new PSHR qualification criteria goes into effect on May 1, 2002. Therefore, the August, 2002, QST will be the first issue to report the results under the new criteria. If an Amateur Radio operator is presently in the middle of his/her quest for qualifying for the PSHR certificate under the old criteria, those months will continue to count toward the certificate.

If you qualify for PSHR during a given month, send your results to either your Section Traffic Manager or Section Manager. These leaders, in turn, will forward the PSHR qualifiers to ARRL Headquarters for notation in the monthly PSHR listing in QST. Further questions about the program may be sent to Steve Ewald, WV1X, at ARRL Headquarters (sewald@arrl.org).

F O N E N E T F O N I C S

N J P N

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JANUARY 2002: 35 SESSIONS CHECK-INS: 218 TOTAL / 27 DIFFERENT STATIONS
TRAFFIC: 56 LISTED 45 PASSED = 80% 202 MINUTES
FEBRUARY 2002: 32 SESSIONS CHECK-INS: 166 TOTAL / 17 DIFFERENT STATIONS
TRAFFIC: 29 LISTED 27 PASSED = 93% 174 MINUTES
MARCH 2002: 36 SESSIONS CHECK-INS: 190 TOTAL / 23 DIFFERENT STATIONS
TRAFFIC: 43 LISTED 41 PASSED = 95% 197 MINUTES

HONOR ROLL:

JANUARY: W2CC 35 / KB2VRO 24 / N1JX 23 / K3GNZ 22 / N2GJ 20 / NG2R 19
FEBRUARY: W2CC 26 / N1JX 24 / K2UL 18 / KB2VRO 18 / N2GJ 16 / K3GNZ 16
MARCH: W2CC 35 / N1JX 23 / K3GNZ 18 / K2UL 17 / KB2VRO 15

TOTAL NCS: W2CC 61 / N1JX 22 / K2UL 7 / N2GJ 5 / KB2VRO 4 / WB2FTX 2 /
K3GNZ 1 / WA2PCS 1

TOTAL LIAISON: N1JX 108 / KB2VRO 22 / N2GJ 1 / K2UL 1

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FUNCTION ROSTER:

Table with 5 columns: Day, NCS, 1:45, 4:45, 6:30. Rows include SUNDAY MORNING, SUNDAY EVENING, MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY.

#####

The NJ QSO Party will be held on the weekend of August 17 and 18. Put it on your calendar and help make this Party a success. I would like to have at least 100 QSOs made from each of the 21 NJ counties.

Remember, if 3950 is occupied, look for the net at the first clear spot ABOVE that frequency.

Remember that the MINIMUM time for a net session has been reduced to four minutes.

My usual plea to make sure that all of the net sessions are covered and that the reports get to me promptly, particularly towards the end of the month. I really want to get the report in the mail to the SM/STMs on the first of the month. I would appreciate it if I am not in attendance in a particular net session that stations in that net would make note of who was NCS so that I can get the report.

PLEASE!!!

73, Dave

David B. Popkin W2CC
Net Manager - NJPN
e-mail = w2cc@arrl.net

From: "Gerry Jurrens N2GJ" <n2gj@amsat.org>
To: <k2ul@arrl.net>
Subject: Message Handling

This would be a good one for the NJTB!

73, GJ

--- Forwarded message from "Wilson, Gary [OMP]" <GWilson7@ompus.jnj.com> --

Found this on a discussion of phonetic alphabets on eham.net. Perhaps we should train our folks in this one---

I and several of my friends who operate UHF in the Chicago area have created the following phonetics guaranteed to "get the message through." Try them out! You'll like them. So will your fellow operators :-)

A - Aegis (*pronounced edge-is. I didn't know, I had to ask.....ed.*)
B - Brie
C - Cereal
D - Djibouti
E - Eye, Ewe
F - Fjord
G - Gnome, Gnu
H - Hombre
I - Iguana
J - Juarez
K - Knight
L - Llama
M - Mnemonic
N - Night, Nome, New
O - Ombre
P - Pneumatic, Phenomenon
Q - Quiche
R - Rote, Rye
S - Serial
T - Tsunami
U - Ursa, Uruguay
V - Voila
W - Wrote, Wry
X - Xenon
Y - Yttrium
Z - Zeitgeist

73,

Neil (Aegis Aegis Nine Knight Knight)

----- End forwarded message -----

NEW JERSEY MORNING NET

Jan QNI/48 QTC/20 QSP/16 QTR/94 sessions/12 diff sta/10
Feb QNI/52 QTC/25 QSP/25 QTR/100 sessions/12 diff sta/10
Mar QNI/70 QTC/31 QSP/23 QTR/134 sessions/15 diff sta/11

	Fri	Sat	Sun
NCS	W2MTO	N2GJ	K2UL
2RN	open	open	open

April 13, 2002

Dear Ham Family,

<BT> Thanks for your prayers, cards, messages and phone calls x every thing doing well here 161
<BT> Jan <AR>

This message was sent on February 16, 2002, when I got back on the air after being in the hospital. I really appreciated hearing from all of you and, since this message was sent in CW, I wanted to put it in the NJTB for those who are not on the CW nets and also sent cards and called me. Thanks for keeping the net running, and for the qni. I'm still in the process of healing and now have to take walks each day.

See you in the next issue.

161,
Jan O'Hara, NJM Net Manager

NEW JERSEY SLOW NET

Spring 2002

NJSN MEETS EVERY DAY AT 6:30 PM LOCAL TIME ON 3.715 MHZ

NET CONTROLS are W2NTS(mon) K2ABX(tue) AG2R(wed) AA2SV(thu,sat) KC2ANN(fri)
K2PB W2JG WA2YL (sunday is open)

ACTIVITIES	SESSIONS	QNI	QTC	QTR	stations
JANUARY	31	191	21/19	506	17
FEBRUARY	28	192	35/33	545	17
MARCH	31	200	18/17	531	18

VERY FREQUENT CHECKINS W2JG AA2SV KA1GWE W2NTS K2ABX WA2YL KG4OTL KC2ANN KC4ZHF
FREQUENT CHECKINS AG2R W4VLL K8LEN WA2QHA K2PB

We wound up with a very nice quarter with all around net activity. With change of time it is difficult for the southern people to get in but Joe W2JG is back. Enjoy the fine spring weather and activities.

K2PB Pat, NJSN Mgr.

NEW JERSEY CW NET

STUDENT BODY, "LEFT JUSTIFIED....."

Now that our Esteemed Editor, K2UL (Bless his heart) is delivering NJTB via email, everything comes out "left justified." He may not make it that way upon receipt of materials but that's the way it comes out on my computer when he emails NJTB. For those of you that never completed ninth grade English, "left-justified" means that if you took my previous write-up, stood them on the left margin and banged them real hard, all the typewritten letters would fall to that side. Now this is ten-four to most of you cause I don't think you care one way or the other. But this deprives me of my creative endeavors in that I can't "Center Justify" or put those neat little graphics in the text. One needs to be different, ya know?? (*Editor's Note: Left Justification is required, Center Justification is prohibited, Resistance is futile.*) I want you to be able recognize NJN write-ups from W2CC's NJN write-ups. And if you don't get that dig, you are in Siberia reading Penthouse. Far be it from me to make K2UL or W2CC unhappy with anything I do. CC has been a net manager since he was three. UL **IS** NJN. He sends me my paycheck every month. When I grow up, I wanna be just like him.

Your NJN Mgr. has a problem and I want you to know about it so that when it happens and the bottom falls out of the net, you won't be surprised. It concerns 630 2rn. During the first three months of 2002, W2MTO has represented NJN 78 times. AG2R has been there seven times. K2UL once. And "NL" which means "Nil" or nobody was there, four times. If W2MTO catches a cold, we are gonna be in serious straits. There are folks out there in CW-land who "work" SSB. We all can't be eating dinner at that time. I hope W2MTO keeps up the good work. But we need to spread the fun around. We need to protect ourselves from disaster. I can't do anything but let you know the situation and ask.....

BTW ("By The Way") a HUGE thanks to George, W2MTO for all he does on the nets and with 630 2rn.

So happy to hear W2JG signals coming out of Waldwick again. Pretty soon the longjohns will come off and summer can commence.....

NJN Function Roster

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
NCS / 7	N2GJ	AA2SV	W2MTO	AG2R	-	W2JG	K2VX
7:45	K2PB	-	-	WA2CUW	K2PB	-	-
6:30	W2MTO	-	-	-	-	W2MTO	K2VX
NCS / 10	K2VX	K2UL	K2PB	WB2VUF	K2UL	W2JG	-
9:30	K2VX	K2UL	K2PB	WB2VUF	K2UL	WA2CUW	-

NEW JERSEY CW SECTION NET STATS

EARLY SESSION 7:00 PM 3695 KHZ DAILY

JANUARY/EARLY

QNI-233 QTC-106 QSP-82 TIME-390 PERCENT MOVED-77
W2MTO-31 N2GJ-24 WA2CUW-22 K2PB-22 WA2YL-22 AG2R-20 AA2SV-18 KC4ZHF-17 K2UL-12
WB2VUF-10

FEBRUARY/EARLY

QNI-202 QTC-84 QSP-77 TIME-333 PERCENT MOVED-92
W2MTO-27 WA2CUW-21 KC4ZHF-20 (TKS BOB) K2PB-20 AA2SV-18 K2UL-18 WA2YL-16 N2GJ-15
K2VX-13 AG2R-12 WB2VUF-12

MARCH/EARLY

QNI-205 QTC-78 QSP-63 TIME-352 PERCENT MOVED 81
W2MTO-30 WA2CUW-25 AA2SV-21 K2PB-20 K2UL-20 AG2R-16 KC4ZHF-16 N2GJ-12 K2VX-12
WA2YL-12 N2SU-11

LATE SESSION 10:00 PM 3695 KHZ DAILY

JANUARY/LATE

QNI-172 QTC-61 QSP-57 TIME-326 PERCENT MOVED-93
WA2YL-29 (TKS "MJ") K2PB-29 WA2CUW-25 AG2R-25 K2UL-24 K2VX-19 WB2VUF-12
**Notable Note was N2BNB, Stephen Gross checked in from AZ. Using KY7M station. One of our NJN Aces
from the past....

FEBRUARY/LATE

QNI-135 QTC-45 QSP-42 TIME-242 PERCENT MOVED-93
K2PB-24 K2UL-24 WA2YL-24 WA2CUS-20 AG2R-15 K2VX-11

MARCH/LATE

QNI-168 QTC-96 QSP-92 TIME-339 PERCENT MOVED-96
K2PB-28 K2UL-27 AG2R-23 K2VX-23 WA2CUW-22 WA2YL-20 WB2VUF-14

Many tks to all those notables on NJN/Late. They are there backing up 930 2rn and taking ncs when
needed. I can't tell you how much I appreciate your effort

Reprint from NJTB September 1983

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE CRAZY ... BUT IT HELPS !!! , by N2XJ

Ham Radio, as we all know, is a many-splendored hobby. CW, SSB, 2-meter FM, RTTY, AMTOR, SSTV, ATV, EME, OSCAR and Packet Radio--to say nothing of DX, contesting, rag-chewing, traffic and Public Service--help while away many hours of our days ... and nights. But, it seems, hams still need more hobbies to keep 'em happy and out of trouble! My second hobby is fixing old clocks.

But, this essay isn't about clock repair. I've gotten into another new and far more fascinating hobby the last two years--trying to save my XYL's corn patch from raccoons. You know, those cute li'l critters who, first, were hatters for Daniel Boone and Davy Crockett, then the source of fur coats for college kids of the 1930's and now specialists in raiding suburban garbage cans.

If you have a lovely Iowa farmer's daughter for a wife, as I have, she naturally plants corn in her garden. The only trouble is that the raccoons know the corn is ripe before she does! And those rascals don't have the sense, good taste or refinement to take just one ear and eat it up. No! They pull ear after ear off the stalks, nibble a few kernels out of each and toss it aside. Guess their mothers never told 'em: "Your eyes are bigger 'n your stomach", "clean up your plate", or "don't waste food ... remember the starving Armenians". (That, kiddies, is a post WW1 line) Anyway, when the raccoons get through with her corn patch it looks as if a herd of elephants had been playing squat tag in it!

So, last year when those danged varmints done her corn in one night I said, "I'll buy a big Havahart trap and catch 'em". I phoned a lotta hardware stores ... finally found one which had a raccoon trap--just what I was looking for--for \$55. Ruby, my XYL said, "no go ... the whole corn crop isn't worth that much". I replied, "Yes, I know, dear, but I can't bear to see you cry those big, beautiful, salty tears the morning after the raccoons come to dinner." Then--between sobs--she asked, "Couldn't you build a trap? I know you make traps for your antennas to catch more signals out of the air with. So I'm sure you can build a raccoon trap." Flattery'll get you everything, so I said, "Ok, dear, I'll build a trap for you."

And that, my NJN and NJM friends, is how my latest and most fascinating hobby came into being. Chasing DX is nothing compared to trying to trap raccoons with a taste for my XYL's corn!

Hadn't built a trap since I was a kid ... out of a Boy Scout Handbook. (Do all hobbies have handbooks?) Anyhoo, I found some old chicken wire and wood in the barn and went to work with a will. The trap was about 3' x 1' with its wood frame covered with chicken wire. My memory was a bit rusty on the tripping mechanism but, with a ham-like resort to purely empirical rather than the design approach of a professional, I finally got a pretty good working trigger.

Field-testing my creation was easy. The garden was there, the corn about ripe so we baited the trap with chicken bones, raccoons' favorite dish. First thing next morning, out to the garden. Yes, the trap had been QNI'd but there was nothing in it but a gaping hole in the chicken wire through which Mr/Mrs/Ms Raccoon had QNO'd! But the devil had been so busy escaping that the corn was untouched. Partial victory. So we put turkey wire (much stronger stuff) over the chicken wire. My thrifty nature (friends might say "cheap") and use of material in the junk box had caused the failure. Next night and a fresh bit of chicken bones attracted the same or another critter and, by dawn's early light, we had trapped our first raccoon. Only trouble was we had to: a) take a long trip to the National Wildlife Refuge in the Great Swamp to release the fellow. (They are too cute to kill even if hardly an endangered species), b) rebuild the trap's tripping gear. The raccoon had chewed it up worse than Ruby's corn!

Following night, our cup runneth over. There were TWO (count 'em) little rascals in the trap next morning! Then, another trip to the Great Swamp after calling the neighbor kids over to see them. Were they cute! I'm afraid we were pretty proud of ourselves. And you know what follows pride, Don't ya? Well, it did. Evil nights befell. No luck for three days. The trap would be spring, the bait gone but nothing in the trap! Scratch heads. Were they getting smart enuf to push up the dropped door from inside the trap? Or were they working a

team-play on us--one raccoon holding the door UP while his partner in crime stole the chicken bones? We opted for the first possibility and drove some sharp nails at a downward angle into the channel in which the door slides. If the thieves tried to push the door up from the inside, the nails would bite into the wood and foil 'em.

The nails seemed to work. We caught a couple more raccoons before the season and Ruby's corn ran out. So this year--after returning from Cape Cod to find that the raccoons had helped themselves to the first planting--we broke out the old trap and went to work again. First night got one; second night nothing; third night nothing again. Maybe they were working the team-play on us after all! Scratch heads again. Or, were they reaching in through the rather large holes in the turkey wire, tripping the trap and then stealing the bait at their leisure in perfect safety? We then added some smaller-mesh wire-cloth at points where the bones might be reached from outside the trap.

The last gambit worked. Caught a big fellow the next night. And, the following night--believe it or not--there were THREE little raccoons in the trap! Ruby said, Better write Havahart and ask 'em if their traps are that good?" I countered with : "Gee, we may get into Guinness Book of World Records!" So endureth our second season of corn-saving raccoon trapping. The second planting of corn was delicious and we--not the raccoons--enjoyed it. But we're terribly tired of chicken which appeared on our menu with very high frequency (VHF) during the hunting season!

What the heck has this to do with Ham Radio, you ask? (If Esteemed Editor deems it fit to print, i.e.) Well, I'll tell you: Raccoon trapping represents a challenge which forces one to think logically, very useful in solving receiver and transmitter malfunctions, particularly intermittence. And, it confirms what good DXers like W2RQ and W2CVW know about snagging the rare ones. You gotta know the operating habits of your quarry--be it DX or raccoons. Watch out, Honor Roll, here comes N2XJ ... if he can ever find time after his traffic nets!

73,
Carl

(submitted by AG2R in memory of N2XJ)

From the Editor

Someone pointed out to me that I neglected to print the 2001 annual NJ award winners list in the Confab report last issue. What was I thinking? Here they are now , in full public recognition of their accomplishments:

K2SE VHF Award – WB2UVB

W2UEZ New Talent Award – W2NTS

W2SWE Traffic Handler Award – WA2OPY

73 from Dan K2UL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dan,

The following was posted in the Hit and Bounce Net's Traffic Call newsletter,

ANY TRAFFIC RECEIVED FOR DAN, W1PEX, PLEASE FORWARD TO HIM VIA EMAIL:
W1PEX@AOL.COM.

He is in a nursing home undergoing treatment for cancer.

Tom, Wa2cuw

Feb 1, 2002

Esteemed Editor, Sir:

It was good to hear you Sunday night, even if it was only for a couple of minutes. Actually, you and VX were the only ones I heard. But it was fun checking in.

Thanks for the NJTB. After Sunday, I feel like I again "deserve" to get it.

So, I've got my hard-copy of HY's dictionary right here. It even has your call sign on the bottom of the last page. Do you need it for something? Do you need it scanned? My scanner isn't working at the moment (seems to be suffering from a terminal case of Windows-XP-itis) but once I get a working driver out of HP I should be able to scan it in. I sit here looking at this little booklet in wonderment. How did you ever get it put together for distribution with the antediluvian technology available to you at the time.

I was startled to read that Charles Gordon was still alive in 2000. What a guy and what an operator. I will never forget the time I was NCS on NJN (it must have been one of my first times at the helm). Someone QNIed with 1 Bogota. I paired the guy off with someone in Bergen County, and Hy broke in, insisting that I'd routed it wrong and that it should have been given to the 2RN liaison for international. I finally convinced him that there really was a Bogota in New Jersey, and the traffic wasn't destined for Colombia.

Now, can you do something about that lunatic up in Parsippany with the cabin fever? I worry about his cat. And I don't even *like* cats!

Hope things are going well for you, Dan.

VY 73 de N2BNB

CAPE MAY COUNTY NTS NET

CMCNTS Meets on Sunday/Tuesday/Thursday at 9pm and Saturday 10am on the W3PS MetroCom repeater system. The repeater frequency is 147.285 pl 146.2 Wednesday night is simplex on 147.420. The Net Manager is Bill KB2YJD.

Jan QNI 61 QTC 1 QSP 1 QTR 146 Sessions 15
Feb QNI 52 QTC 2 QSP 2 QTR 131 Sessions 15
Mar QNI 42 QTC 0 QSP 0 QTR 115 Sessions 13

Net Controls: SUN-WB2JJO TUE-KB2VYZ WED-KB2YJD THUR-KB2YJD SAT-WB2JJO

73s Bill KB2YJD, NET MANAGER CMCNTS

CENTRAL JERSEY TRAFFIC NET

	QNI	QTC	Time	Stations
Jan	262	53/42	266	35
Feb	192	48/43	200	24
Mar	206	44/36	232	27

January Honor Roll

KB2VRO 28 N3RB 26 WB2KNS 24 KC2HPH 17 WA2HPD 16 KY2MMM 15
KC2BRF 14 K2PB 14 WA2FVL 14 WA2QHA 13

February Honor Roll

WB2KNS 24 KB2VRO 23 N3RB 19 KY2MMM 17 K2PB 14 AA2SV 12

March Honor Roll

WB2KNS 24 KB2VRO 23 N3RB 22 K2PB 15 KY2MMM 15 AA2SV 13

I would like to congratulate the members of the net for their dedication every night. It takes commitment to remember that we exist at 2000 hrs. I would also like to pay tribute to the Net Control Stations who really keep the net moving along. They are:

Monday WA2HPD - Jim
Tues W2KEI - Jack
Wed W2KEI
Thurs KC2AMA - Geoff
Friday K2PB - Pat
Saturday N2RPI - John
Sunday KC2GZB - Rich

I would like to remind everyone that a message a month from everyone will double our traffic.

73 Jim kb2vro

JSARS TRAFFIC NET

January: QNI 350, Traffic 27/21 in 250 mins, 31 sessions

February: QNI 540, Traffic 35/33 in 355 mins, 28 sessions

March: QNI 404, Traffic 37/35 in 265 mins, 31 sessions

I would like to give a very special thanks to John McCann K4WTV, (ex-KB2WTV) who has been my Friday night NCS for the past three years. John is retiring and headed south. Fridays nights will not be the same for awhile without his gravely voice calling the net. John will always be known for his statement "Less is More" something all HAMS should live by, Good Luck John.

Jim Trachta K2ATQ JSARS Traffic Net Mgr.

NEW JERSEY VHF NET / EARLY

JAN 02, QNI 509, QTC 73, QSP 70 IN 359 MINS, 31 SESSIONS, 67 DIFFERENT STNS

FEB 02, QNI 444, QTC 41, QSP 40 IN 326 MINS, 28 SESSIONS, 55 DIFFERENT STNS

MAR 02, QNI 507, QTC 62, QSP 59 IN 376 MINS, 31 SESSIONS, 55 DIFFERENT STNS

HONOR ROLL: (15 OR MORE CHECKINS PER MONTH)

JAN 02: KC2FYA 30, N2RPI 29, KB2VVB KC2ANN KC2BLN 27, KY2MMM N2BVM WB2KNS 23, KJ2N 22, KB2VRO WA2ZNT 21, KC2BRF N3RB 19, WB2FTX 18, KG2CV 15

FEB 02: KC2FYA 28, KC2ANN WB2KNS 25, KY2MMM 24, KB2VVB 23, N2BVM 22, WA2ZNT 21, KC2BRF KC2BLN N2RPI N3RB 20, KJ2N 19, KB2SXU 16

MAR 02: KC2FYA 30, KC2BLN 27, KB2VVB KC2ANN 26, KB2SXU N2RPI WB2KNS 25, KY2MMM 24, N2BVM WB2FTX 22, KJ2N KB2OPJ N3RB NJ5R 19

FUNCTION ROSTER:

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THR	FRI	SAT
N2OPJ	KJ2N	KB2VRO	KC2ANN	N2RPI	KY2MMM	KB2VVB

I take this time to welcome all NJVNE participants to the year 2002. We have learned plenty from the past year in traffic handling as well as procedures for checking into a traffic net.

I have seen a great improvement by all, not only in the handling of traffic, but also proper procedures when requesting to secure station. In addition, there has been a great improvement in the handling of net reports to net managers.

A reminder to all, conserve your water usage. There is to this date a drought emergency. Follow instructions given to you by your local and county officials.

73, John N2RPI, Net Manager NJVN/E

SOUTH JERSEY TRAFFIC NET

SJTN meets on Sunday / Monday / Wednesday / Friday at 8pm on the Burlington County OEM linked repeater system, 145.47 - (Chatsworth) and 147.15 + (Mt Holly). PL is 127.3 and Net Mgr is KB2RTZ.

January: QNI 61, Traffic 17/17 in 150 mins. Sessions 17

February: QNI 67, Traffic 24/20 in 224 mins. Sessions 16

March: QNI 90, Traffic 42/41 in 185 mins. Sessions 18

Net Control Roster: Sun-WJ2F Mon-K2UL Wed-KB2RTZ Fri-N2VQA

NEW JERSEY VHF NET / LATE

JANUARY 2002

QNI 481 QTC 44/43 98% IN 275 MINUTES 45 DIFFERENT STATIONS

FEBUARY 2002

QNI 385 QTC 35/35 100% IN 257 MINUTES 43 DIFFERENT STATIONS

MARCH 2002

QNI 370 QTC 49/49 100% IN 301 MINUTES 43 DIFFERENT STATIONS

HONOUR ROLL (15 or more checkins per month)

JANUARY 2002

N2OPJ 31 K1VDH 31 KB2VVB 30 WA2PFS 30 N2RPI 30 N2BVM 30
K2DBK 29 WB2KNS 28 KC2GIK 25 KC2IFH 24 WB2SFN 23 KC2CJW 23

FEBUARY 2002

N2OPJ 28 K1VDH 28 KB2VVB 27 WB2KNS 26 N2BVM 24 WA2PFS 24
KC2IFH 22 N2RPI 22 WB2SFN 22 KC2CW 20 K2DBK 17 KC2GIK 16

MARCH 2002

N2OPJ 31 K1VDH 31 N2RPI 31 KB2VVB 27 WB2KNS 27
WA2PFS 24 N2BVM 24 K2DBK 22 KC2GIK 18 KC2CJW 15

NET CONTROLS:

SUNDAY - K2DBK
MONDAY - KC2CJW
TUESDAY - WA2PFS
WEDNESDAY- N2RPI
THURSDAY - N2OPJ
FRIDAY - K2MIS
SATURDAY - K1VDH

=====

HERBERT VAN DEN HOUTEN N2OPJ
SADDLE BROOK NJ
SKYWARN: #NJ00399-7
Deputy RACES Officer Ramsey OEM
Damage Assessment Officer

SOUTH JERSEY VHF NET

JANUARY

QNI 266, QTC 39, QSP 33, QTR 315 min, Diff sta 31, Percent 84.5, Sess 31

Top QNI: 25 KA2CQX WB2UVB KC2ETU KB2YBM KB2VSR, 22 KB2VYZ N2VQA KB2YJD,
14 N2WFN, 13 K2UL, 5 KE2EH W2AZ, 4 WB2JJO, 3 N2ZMI N2JAI KA2YKN,
2 N2RAI KB2VIZ KC2IYC N2FHJ N2FHK N2SOE KB2VSD KB2YWD KB2RTZ,
1 KC2HDR NN2Y KB2ERL KC2HMG N2AYK KC2IWA

Top NCS: 13 WB2UVB, 6 N2VQA, 5 N2WFN, 4 KB2VYZ, 2 KA2CQX, 1 KB2YJD

Top ANCS: 14 KA2CQX, 7 WB2UVB, 2 KB2VYZ N2WFN N2VQA KB2YJD, 1 N2FHJ K2UL

Top 2RN Rep: 11 K2UL, 7 N2VQA, 5 N2WFN, 4 KB2VYZ, 2 WB2UVB, 1 KB2YJD, 1 KE2EH

Comments: Wish to welcome KC2IWA, KC2IYC, KC2HMG, and KC2HDR to the SJVN.

Wish a happy birthday to WB2UVB on the 27th of January. The percentage of traffic passed has fallen below the 90% mark, lets get back over the 90% mark in Feb.

All slots were covered. KB2VSD has been very busy at work with overtime and under paid that he is sorry that he has not been on the net that much this month. KE2EH announced that he will be moving to up state Penna. later this year and will really miss the NJ traffic nets, but will try to check into the HF ones when he can and maybe into SJVN when the band is open.

FEBRUARY

QNI 255, QTC 43, QSP 38, QTR 371 min, Diff sta 23, Percent 88.3, Sess 28

Top QNI: 25 WB2UVB KA2CQX KC2ETU KB2YBM KB2VSR, 18 KB2VYZ KB2YJD, 17 N2WFN,
16 N2VQA, 11 WB2JJO, 10 K2UL, 9 N2ZMI, 7 N2JAI, 4 WM3F W2AZ, 3 KB2RTZ,
2 KC2IYC KB2YKN N2HQL, 1 KE2EH N2RAI N2VIZ NN2Y K2KEL KA3QBT

Top NCS: 16 WB2UVB, 5 N2WFN, 3 N2VQA, 2 KB2YJD, 1 KB2VYZ KA2CQX

Top ANCS: 16 KA2CQX, 4 KB2YJD KB2VYZ WB2UVB

Top 2RN Rep: 11 N2WFN, 6 N2VQA K2UL, 3 KB2VYZ, 1 KE2EH WB2UVB

Comments: We wish to welcome K2KEL to the SJVN this month. Percentatge of the traffic passed is still below 90%. Again 100% of all slots were filled. I am glad to see Jeff WM3F has been able to check into SJVN with his busy schedule at school. Also Don NN2Y is back, but with is schedule usually he does not get out of the post office until after 23:00 but once in awhile he gets out early.

MARCH

QNI 326, QTC 62, QSP 58, QTR 437 min, Diff sta 26, Percent 96.1, sess 31

Top QNI: 26 KA2CQX WB2UVB KC2ETU KB2YBM KB2VSR, 23 N2WFN N2VQA, 20 WB2JJO
19 K2UL, 10 W2AZ, 9 N2AYK, 8 KC2IYC KC2JGN, 5 N2JAI, 3 KA2YKN, 2 KC2IYE,
1 KB2SBH KB2VSD WM3F K2KEL KB2GTV WA3BXW

Top NCS: 15 WB2UVB, 5 N2WFN N2VQA, 3 KA2CQX, 2 KB2VYZ, 1 KB2YJD

Top ANCS: 15 KA2CQX, 5 KB2VYZ N2WFN, 3 WB2UVB, 2 KB2VYZ, 1 KB2YJD

Top 2RN Rep: 11 N2WFN, 9 K2UL, 4 N2VQA, 3 KB2VYZ, 2 AA2SV, 2 WB2UVB

Comments: Again we welcome KC2JGN, KC2IYE, KB2SBH and WA3BXW to the net this month. A BIG hand goes out to EVERYONE on the net for getting the percentage traffic passed over 90 again. KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK EVERYONE.

A long time supporter of SJVN and a great traffic handler himself Willie AA2SV was able to check into SJVN for two nites in a row and boy did we put him to work as 2RN Rep for both nites.

This month we wish a happy birthday to Janice KA2CQX on the 18th of the month. Also a tech and preparedness net will start on the first Wednesday of April at 22:00 with N2AYK, KB2VYZ, KC2IYE, KB2YJD and WB2UVB getting it off to the races.

Many thank to all the check ins, NCS, ANCS and 2RN Reps.

ROSTER

DAY	NCS	ANCS
Monday	WB2UVB	KA2CQX
Tuesday	KB2VYZ	KB2YJD
Wednesay	WB2UVB	KA2CQX
Thursday	N2WFN	N2VQA
Friday	KA2CQX	WB2UVB
Saturday	KB2YJD	KB2VYZ
Sunday	N2VQA	N2WFN

We also have K2UL, KB2VSD, N2FHJ, and AA2SV on stand by if needed for NCS.

SJVN has the following liasions.

- 2RN rep K2UL N2WFN N2VQA KB2VYZ AA2SV WB2UVB
- Skywarn KA2CQX KB2VYZ KB2YJD N2JAI KB2VSD WB2UVB
- Am. Red Cross WB2UVB KA2CQX N2FHJ
- Sal. Army KA2CQX WB2UVB
- ARES/RACES N2ZMI N2JAI KB2VYZ KB2YJD KB2VSD KA2CQX WB2UVB
- FEMA State staff WB2UVB
- ARMY MARS N2JAI KB2VYZ KA2CQX WB2UVB
- Packet radio KB2VYZ KB2YJD K2UL N2WFN N2VQA
- EMBSEC3 WB2UVB KA2CQX KB2VSD N2WOT

I hope everyone has a nice summer and send a message to a friend or relative in spring time.

There will be a SKYWARN TRAINNING session at the Cherry Hill Library on May 14 from 7 to 9 pm doors open at 6pm. The library is located on Rt 41 (Kings Hwy). for more directions call the library. If you plan on attending send an e-mail to wakeupamericaandbepreparedkc2etu@yahoo.com. This is not required but just to get an idea how many are coming. God Bless you and America.

73's Gene WB2UVB
Net Manager SJVN

UNION COUNTY TRAFFIC NET

On the W2NJR linked repeater system, 10pm Monday-Friday. Net Manager: KY2MMM.

Official opening was March 25, 2002. Repeater coverage is most of NJ. (Note: Most repeaters are on the 440 MHz band). Repeater are located in Murray Hill, Springfield, Summit, Asbury Park, Bordentown, Neptune, and Bricktown. Wall and West Orange are coming soon. We are also available through internet link. For more info on the linked system, see <http://mywebpages.comcast.net/w2njr/> or it can be accessed through <http://www.w2li.org>

As of March 31 we had 5 net sessions, 38 checkins, 2 pieces of traffic, none outstanding, 35 min for net session time and 20 different stations.

It is since growing and we hope others will join us. We are still looking for net controls and liaisons. Thanks in advance.

Ky2mmm