

The Texan

Newsletter of the Texas NTS CW Net (TEX)

**** See "TSN Corner" on Last Page ****

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February-March 2008



This will be a combined issue of the TEX'an, since I was unable to make time to publish one in February.

Thanks for your support

Many thanks to all who pitched in to cover for me while I was taking care of my parents in California. It was a very difficult 5 weeks that I spent there. From the reports Rodney forwarded to me, the net ran quite smoothly, which was comforting. My parents are now in their home with my father recovering from a broken hip / replacement. My mother is under "hospice" care, since there is nothing more the doctors can do for her. However, she is a tough cookie and has made some improvement. My niece and her husband have moved in to care for both of their grandparents, and they are doing a very good job, so I am at least resting a bit easier.

7290 Picnic

Jo Ann, KA5AZK, the manager of the 7290 net has set a date for the 2008 picnic. The annual picnic will be held at the Riverbend Park in Smithville, Texas, on May 3 this year. Details are available on the 7290 net web site at <http://www.7290trafficnet.org/> including a New menu, maps, and lodging information. I do not know if I will attend yet, but I am hoping to be able to do so. If you are interested, please check the website and also let me know. If enough TEX'ans are going to attend, then I will make a special effort to be there, too, if at all possible. Remember that the 7290 picnic is the traditional event at which the Pfeiffer Pfist is awarded.

Volume Routine Traffic Update to the Public Service Comm Manual

Jim, KB5W, the chair of the Central Area Staff of the NTS, provided the following information that was released from ARRL headquarters in early February. Jim's comment was "Looks to me like the League has put the ball back in our court. I personally think it's time to limit this activity especially since it originates in digital mode (little or no effort to originate) but becomes a burden on phone and CW operators. Opinions are welcomed. 73 all, Jim Leist KB5W".

The text of the update, which came from Steve Ewald, WV1X, at ARRL follows:

The Web-based ARRL Public Service Communications Manual has now been updated to include the new segment about "Volume Routine Traffic." As you'll recall, this addition was approved recently by the ARRL's Programs and Services Committee.

The PSCM is found on the ARRL Web page at this address:

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/pscm/>

The paragraph reads:

3.16 Volume Routine Traffic

Originating routine traffic in volume has the potential to lower delivery percentages thereby diminishing the viability of the system as a back-up for emergency use, simply because "operating enjoyment" becomes "work" and amateur radio operators with limited time are generally willing and able to cope with only finite quantities of routine messages. While in emergencies these amateur operators would be willing to move volumes of traffic at a sacrifice of time in the interest of public service, the origination and transmission through NTS of large volumes of routine messages over an infinite period of time, especially those with common texts to addressees unknown to the originator and absent of time value, can be counter-productive to the system's purpose and structure.

While such routine messages are welcome and indeed necessary for the continued training and practice of operators and for maintenance of the system, it may be necessary for NTS Area Staff Chairs, in consultation with their respective staffs, to establish guidelines for volume traffic in order to maintain the over-all health of the system.

This addition has been added to the PSCM's Section II: National Traffic System (NTS), Chapter Three: NTS Policies in the new section 3.16.

(end of message)

As you might imagine, this has stirred up quite a bit of discussion and opinion. The majority that I have seen is "negative" insofar as those responding are very much against this so-called "book" traffic. However, to date the Area Staff has left it up to the section (and local) net management to decide how to respond and what policy to set for their own net(s).

After conferring with Rodney and Doug, I think we are agreed that while some of this traffic is beneficial, there are also some messages that don't really add value and are not well received by those to whom they are addressed. But without this traffic, we would have very little to do on the net, which would eventually cause many of us to lose interest.

So for now, the "official" stance of the Texas CW Net is to accept all incoming (and outgoing) "book" traffic regardless of the source. RN5 and other liaison stations are to handle the book traffic in the same manner as it has been done in the past several years.

However, it is up to each of you, the net members, as to what to do with the incoming traffic. You are not obligated to accept any of it for delivery, but you are encouraged to take all traffic

for your “normal” coverage area. If it can be delivered without cost, excessive time spent, or undue embarrassment, then by all means continue to do so. But if the messages are out of your local area or you must spend too much time handling volumes of it, then you are welcome to QTA the message(s). For traffic that you are “stuck” with as a liaison station with no takers in a reasonable amount of time (e.g., 48 hours), then you may also QTA the traffic. Good practice, but not mandatory, is to service the originator that there is “no outlet”. I’ve seen quite a bit of that sort of feedback coming in, particularly from the West Coast (since I have TCC skeds PAN←→CAN).

Another tip: For “license renewal” types of messages, before trying to deliver them, check the ARRL web site for the call letters to find out if the operator has already renewed. If so, then simply service back to the originator (per the “HXC”) that they have “already renewed”. There is no point in even trying to deliver the message in that case. I know, and have experienced myself, that some of these renewal messages go to silent keys, which can be very embarrassing and distressing to both the recipient and the delivering operator. This will happen from time to time, but it is a very small percentage, in general. There is no way to positively determine if this might be the case, but I have become wary when checking the phone numbers and encountering only the wife’s name (in the case of a male ham) listed. I am very careful, in that case, to say I have a message for the amateur radio station by callsign, rather than name, when calling.

We are all encouraged to originate several messages a month to family, friends, and/or stations that we have had a QSO with or exchanged a QSL card. That is NOT “Volume Routine Traffic” and is most welcome in keeping the system “oiled”. Similarly, any traffic that is originated and sent “in person” (versus “by automated device”, such as a computer), is also encouraged and welcome.

If you have a different opinion or other suggestions, please pass them along.

W1NJM Saga

Again, thanks to Sis, WD8DIN, the editor of the “Traffic Call” newsletter of the Hit and Bounce Net (HBN – 0730 CT, 7042 KHz), for passing along George Hart’s saga of the “early days”. Here’s Part 11 of George Hart’s recollections. Geo and family feel the effects of the ‘29 Crash.

RANDOM RECOLLECTIONS OF AN OLD HAM

A journalistic history of the life and times in Amateur Radio of George Hart, W1NJM, by George Hart, W1NJM. Part 11.

The Great Change

My father was not a stock speculator, but he owned small blocks of stock in several companies known to be stable, such as General Motors, American Agricultural Chemical Co, Studebaker, Dupont, and a few others, all of which either went down the drain or greatly decreased in value and stopped paying dividends. The loss was about 60% of his net worth. Being entirely a self-made man of Scotch heritage, it hit him hard. We were not destitute, but we had to reduce our living style considerably. My three brothers and I were hardly aware of

what was going on, but we knew the old man (he was 76) was becoming increasingly irascible. In 1931 he suffered a complete nervous breakdown and passed away in June.

The house in which we four boys had been born and raised belonged to Lafayette College. When my father, an eminent professor of chemistry at the college, passed away, we lost any right to continue occupying the house. The college magnanimously gave us a year to vacate. Life went on almost as usual for another six months, then the college, feeling we (that is my mother) were apparently making no plans to vacate, started putting on the pressure. First they tore down my father's abandoned chemical laboratory which, although owned by my father and now by my mother was on college property. We had to scramble to remove anything of value before the demolition crew moved in. The demolition caused us to lose our electrical service, because it had been connected to the house through the "den".

We still had our gas lights, but the electrical disconnect spelled the end of W3NF on College Hill. Among my father's former assets was a publishing company located in Easton quite close to the college, and here Ed established our new station using the 852 amplifier driven by a crystal-controlled 210 oscillator and using our almost new National SW-3 receiver. The transmitter was established on a bench in the third-floor composing room, with an antenna on the roof. But the location was a very poor one for radio, a precipitous hill on one side and the downtown city of Easton surrounding us on the other three sides. During the day, with all the electrical noises inside the plant, operation was impossible. After five o'clock and on weekends the factory noises ceased, but the passing trolley cars (the College Hill trolley passed right in front of the building) caused loud discharges, making operation even on evenings until almost midnight and during weekends and holidays very difficult. It was such a vast change from our previous location on the third floor of our College Hill house that operation of W3NF all but ceased. The building was "spooky" and chilly when unoccupied. There were no bathrooms or lavatories in the building, only an outhouse outdoors across a small parking area in the rear.

Of course we did have "the farm," about five miles down the Delaware River near the village of Raubsville. This property consisted of about 400 acres of meadows and forest in two valleys, and four houses, three of which were occupied by relatives who worked the farm for my father. The fourth house, at some distance from the others, was where we had spent our summers during my father's last few years, and where we were destined to move now that "papa" was gone. It was a large stone house, very old, of about ten rooms. There was no indoor plumbing, no electricity, no central heating. The house sat on the side of a hill overlooking a meadow below and dense forest on the other side. Living there the year around was a bleak prospect indeed, but we had nowhere else to go, and during the spring of 1932 the move was undertaken with vigor by all five of us.

Next in Part 12. The Effects of the 29 Crash Continue to Challenge.

TEX Mailbox:

Si, K5JRN, is having major renovations done on his house so he must temporarily live in another location. He does not have any HF capabilities there, so he will be off the air for a while. Good luck with the renovation, Si, and hope you will be able to return soon.

Pat, KD5TXD, passes along this amusing story: Last week Kleberg County had a SKYWARN training session and as usual a good number of our hams turned out. I was sitting by one of our old timers who hasn't been able to participate a lot lately. Sprinkled around the room were several other hams with the group.

The NWS instructor was seriously telling us all about the development of thunderstorms and the rotation associated with updrafts and tornadoes. The display on the screen was a diagram of a thunderstorm with a "spring" which represented the rotating updraft. Through the wonders of powerpoint the spring expanded and contracted. One of our other old time hams raised his hand to ask a question. The NWS representative called on him. Our ham asked, "is this a 'spring' thunderstorm?"

The NWS fellow started to answer in all seriousness but realized from the hysterical laughter from the room that our ham had made a joke at his expense. The ham sitting next to me could not contain himself for some time after that. We have a small but joyful group here.

Floyd, N5EL, is happy to report that his son, Floyd Jr. (who goes by David, his middle name) has been able to obtain his brother Lloyd's call, N6EL. Very glad to learn that David is also a CW op, although Floyd reports his son is currently too busy with volunteer work for the Belton Fire Department to get on the air very much.

David's wife has already applied for Floyd's original first ticket from 1957, K5OKQ, which David was able to get after Floyd traded it in 1977 for his current 1 x 2 call. As Floyd said, sure hope they don't all get confused!

Book Report Time! Our enthusiastic reader and reporter, **Pat, KD5TXD**, send in another of her great book reports. She writes: This book report is not so much about amateur radio as it is about the scientists and experimenters who were the foundation for electronics and radio. I had never paid any attention to these people before. As I have become more interested in radio and electronics, I have grown curious about the thread of invention that brought us wireless radio. This book is titled "Great Men of Science: A History of Scientific Progress" by Philipp Lenard. It was published in 1933 and I found it in the TAMUK library by accident. No better way to encounter a book than randomly.

Lenard collected the biographical data for 66 important scientists and experimenters. He wrote a brief summary of the life of each and noted their important scientific contributions. Well, what a treat for me to see each of these people listed out in order of their births and discoveries. Yes, not all were dealing with electricity, but all had significant contributions that are part of the march of science to our present time.

I read the list of scientists and recognized all the important names that are attached to formulas and electricity: Watt, Volta, Ampere, Ohm, and Hertz. PETA would be appalled at Volta's decimation of the frog population for the sake of discovering what materials conduct electricity well and show that it is possible to obtain a continual flow of electricity. Fortunately for the frog population, Volta was able to move on and eliminate frog legs from his research. He invented the voltaic pile, a battery, made from layers of metal and liquid soaked cardboard or leather between each metal plate, chemically creating electricity. Alessandro Volta lived from 1745 to 1827.

Can't get your Technician license without encountering the efforts of George Ohm (1789-1854). Ohm should be pleased considering that his laws fell on deaf ears back in his day. It was late in Ohm's life before his law, "The current is equal to the driving tension or electromotive force divided by the resistance", gained some recognition for him.

Now James Watt had me fooled. I read the description of him and his work with steam engines and wondered where the electricity was. It is a brief description of Watt and his separate condenser, 'sun and planet gear', and other developments that were used to build steam engines that could pump water out of coal mines so workers could safely bring out the coal. He measured the work done in his steam engines as the product of the pressure and volume. In electricity the Power, measured in units called watts, is the product of voltage and current. At least Watt didn't have to abuse any frogs in the process.

Things that we take for granted today took some fancy figuring out. Olaus Roemer (1644-1710) accurately calculated the speed of light using the shadow of Jupiter over its moons and the earth's position in its own orbit to calculate the speed of light. So, as amateur radio operators we are using the results of his efforts to calculate wave lengths and frequencies for our antennas. The amateur astronomer in me found that super interesting.

I fear modern inventors are too often hidden from us behind the walls of giant corporations and trade secrets. We might not have the joy of viewing each of their lives in the way Lenard viewed this group of scientists. All the gentlemen were very interesting for me and it's hard to pick any one scientist that seems more special or creative. All the pieces came together later with Marconi, but that story must wait for a later book report. 73!! Pat KD5TXD

Dave, W4ZJY, who is the Central Area Digital Coordinator (and TCC director for cycles 1 and 2 as well as being a great CW op on RN5 and CAN) reported the results of the election just held for Central Area Staff (CAS) chair and CAN manager. Jack, W5TFB, was the CAN manager for many years, but as you know, he has had to greatly curtail his activities for health reasons. The new manager, effective 1 March, is John, W3FAF, who lives in Minnesota.

Jim, KB5W, the RN5 manager and current CAS chair retained that position by a very small margin (1 vote) over Dave, W4ZJY. Note that Jim is also having some health problems and recently underwent surgery. He is very much missed and will hopefully be back home in another week or so. We all wish Jim a speedy recovery.

Funny of the Month

Again, thanks to Pat, we have this humorous set of "non-standard" conversions. The comments in red are hers. Enjoy!

HANDY ENGINEERING CONVERSIONS

- ~ Ratio of an igloo's circumference to its diameter: Eskimo Pi
- ~ 2000 pounds of Chinese soup: Won ton
- ~ 1 millionth of a mouthwash: 1 microscope
- ~ Time between slipping on a peel and smacking the pavement: 1 bananosecond <-- my favorite
- ~ Weight an evangelist carries with God: 1 billigram

- ~ Time it takes to sail 220 yards at 1 nautical mile per hour: Knot-furlong
- ~ 16.5 feet in the Twilight Zone: 1 Rod Serling
- ~ Half of a large intestine: 1 semicolon
- ~ 1000 aches: 1 megahertz
- ~ Basic unit of laryngitis: 1 horsepower
- ~ Shortest distance between two jokes: A straight line (think about it for a moment) <-- took me a while
- ~ 453.6 graham crackers: 1 pound cake
- ~ 1 million-million microphones: 1 megaphone
- ~ 1 million bicycles: 2 megacycles
- ~ 365.25 days: 1 unicycle
- ~ 2000 mockingbirds: 2 kilomockingbirds
- ~ 10 cards: 1 decacards
- ~ 1 kilogram of falling figs: 1 Fig Newton
- ~ 1000 grams of wet socks: 1 literhosen
- ~ 1 millionth of a fish: 1 microfiche
- ~ 1 trillion pins: 1 terrapin
- ~ 10 rations: 1 decoration
- ~ 100 rations: 1 C-ration
- ~ 2 monograms: 1 diagram
- ~ 8 nickels: 2 paradigms
- ~ 2.4 statute miles of intravenous surgical tubing at Yale University Hospital: 1 I.V. League <--my second favorite
- ~ 100 Senators: Not 1 decision <--the sad truth

TEX Net Topics

Those RN5 liaisons, Wednesday through Friday early and Wednesday through Saturday, late are still open. If you are able, please take one (or more) of the open slots.

TEX CW Net Weekly Schedule

Local	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
NCS #1	N5PWG	KA5KLU	K6JT	AC5Z	KD5TXD	AC5Z	W5GKH
Backup	W5GKH	Open	KD5TXD	W5DY	W5DY	W5DY	W5DY
NCS #2	W5GKH	KA5KLU	KD5TXD	K6JT	N5PWG	W5DY	W5GKH
Backup	K6JT	Open	K6JT	Open	K6JT	Open	K6JT
RN5 #1	W5GKH	KA5KLU	Open	Open	Open	W5ESE	W5CU
Backup	W5DY	Open	W5DY	W5ESE	W5CU	Open	W5GKH
RN5 #2	W5GKH	KA5KLU	Open	Open	Open	Open	W5CU
Backup	W5DY	Open	W5DY	K6JT	W5DY	W5DY	W5GKH

TEX/1: 3552 at 19:00 local; TEX/2 3552 at 22:00 local

RN5/1: 3567 at 19:30; RN5/2: 3567 at 21:30 local

TSN: 3552 at 19:45 local; CAN: 3552 at 20:30 local; PAN: 3552 at 22:30 local

RN5 Backup: W5DY, W5ESE, W5GKH, K5GM, K6JT, KA5KLU, K5RG

NCS Backup: W5DY, N5EL, K6JT, KA5KLU, N5PWG, KD5TXD, AC5Z

Thanks to Jay, N5PWG, who has picked up another (this time early) NCS slot on Monday. He is doing a great job and having fun, too (at least that's what I was told ;-)

Statistics:

Since I sent out January's statistics in lieu of a newsletter, I will only show the summary here, for comparison with February.

TEX Net Statistics (January 2008)

		QNI	total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW	CTTN	TSN
Call									
Totals		321		62	61	35	33	25	36
				100%	98%	56%	53%	40%	58%
QTC 1		79	145						
QTC 2		66			Sessions:	62	100%		
Time 1		504	826						
Time 2		322							

This past month Rodney, W5DY, again took top honors with QNI of 41 (72%). He was followed by Pat, KD5TXD, with 31 (54%). "Honorable Mention" goes to Bert, AC5Z, who can only make the early session of TEX. He was on all but two of the 29 possible nights (93%). Thanks to everyone for your support.

The complete list of stations and traffic / liaison totals are shown in the following table. Traffic was up from January, in spite of having a "shorter" month, and QNI improved too over last month. Traffic averaged 3.5 per net session. Net time averaged 16.8 minutes per session. Check-ins averaged 5.7 per session. A good month.

TEX Net Statistics (February 2008)

		QNI	total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW	CTTN	TSN
Call									
C6APG	Kevin	1	1						
		0							
N5BA	Brian	0	1						
		1							
W5CDX	Wads	1	12						
*		11			1				
W5CU	Sam	15	24		6				
*		9			5				
W5DY	Rodney	20	41	2	4	1	3		
		21		5	12		4		
N5EL	Floyd	18	24						
*		6							
WA5FB	Frank	1	1						
*		0							
W5ESE	Scott	25	26		10			21	1
*		1			1				
W5GKH	Charlie	9	17	4	5				
*		8		7	4				
K5GM	Pete	3	3						
*		0							
W9GVW	Eric	9	11						
*		2							
AA5J	Chuck	5	5				1		
*		0							
KJ9J	Newt	11	11						
*		0							
K6JT	Steve	12	30	2			12		

			total	NCS	RN5	TTN	DFW	CTTN	TSN
Call		QNI							
*		18		6			18		
KA5KLU	Doug	4	8	4	4				
*		4		4	4				
K5KV	Benny	1	3						
		2							
W6LFB	Jim	1	1				1		
*		0							
KA5NNG	Mike	1	1						
		0							
N5NVP	Jim	5	10						
		5							
N5PWG	Jay	7	13	4					
*		6		2					
K5RDW	RD	7	7						
*		0							
K5RG	Ken	6	16						
*		10							
KD5TXD	Pat	17	31	5		16			16
*		14		4		14		1	13
AC5Z	Bert	27	27	8					
*		0							
Totals		324		57	56	31	39	22	30
				98%	97%	53%	67%	38%	52%
QTC 1		114	202						
QTC 2		88			Sessions:	57	98%		
Time 1		573	959						
Time 2		386							

Note also that we were again visited by Kevin, C6APG, in the Bahamas. Propagation appears to be pretty good these days with little skip (although some QSB). Spring T-Storm season is approaching, though, so be prepared.

The roster, which follows, has not been updated, but is provided for your convenience.

TEX Roster

Call	Name	Location / Notes	Call	Name	Location / Notes
N5BA	Brian	Houston	WA5MUF	Bill	Watauga
W5BYQ	Earl	Houston	# N7NET	Scott	Allen
W5CDX	Wads	Crowley LA	AAØNI	Daniel	Oklahoma City OK
W5CU	Sam	Edmond OK	KB5NJD	John	Duncanville
NV5D	Martin	Allen	# N5NVP	Jim	Leesville LA
* W5DY	Rodney	Goliad	* N5PWG	Jay	Pasadena
N5EL	Floyd	Temple	K5RDW	RD	Vilonia AR
* W5ESE	Scott	Dripping Springs	K5RG	Ken	Houston
AA7FY	Mark	Fort Worth	W5ROK	Steve	Richardson (K6JT)
W5GKH	Charlie	West Columbia	KC5T	Bob	Houston
K5GM	Pete	Austin	W5TFB	Jack	College Station
W9GVV	Eric	San Antonio	W5TV	Tom	Nacogdoches
KA9IKK	Bill	Houston	* KD5TXD	Pat	Kingsville
AA5J	Chuck	Plano	# W5U FK	Ken	College Station
KJ9J	Newt	Pharr TX (winter)	* K5UN	Lee	Leonard
* K5JRN	Si	Denton	KS5V	Ed	Bulverde
K6JT	Steve	Plano	K5WQG	Eddy	Tomball
KA5KLU	Doug	San Antonio	# KM5YQ	David	Irving
K5KV	Benny	Star	* AC5Z	Bert	Nacogdoches (Lufkin)
W6LFB	Jim	Denton			

Not Capable of operating in 3600-3700 band; * Capable of 160 meter operation

Operating:

Daylight Time begins again on March 9th this year (yes, I know it seems like we just started standard time). This is a reminder that TEX will continue to meet at the same local times, but that will be 1 hour earlier UTC (0000Z and 0300Z).

That could mean we have some trouble with copy on early TEX, since it will still be light and the D-Layer absorption may be significant. Hopefully signals will still be good enough, albeit through more noise. If you have an NVIS type of antenna (low, horizontal), it might work better at that time, at least to cut down on the noise.

On Friday and Saturday nights, if there is a major CW contest that fills up the band, please go to 3643 KHz to see if the net is there. I try to send out alerts early enough, but some of these contests sort of “sneak up” on me, since I am not a contester. We used 3643 during the DX contest in February, and it worked out well.

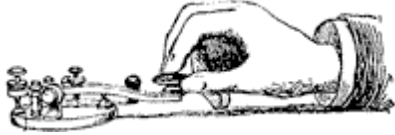
Please let me know if your E-Mail address has or will soon change so I can keep the list correct. Comcast and Time Warner have been “swapping” regions lately, which caused some trouble after the first of the year with “undeliverable” messages coming back to me.

With the start of the Spring season, Thunderstorms will again come more and more frequently. Play it safe! If there are T-Storms within a short distance of your QTH, or they appear to be moving toward you (check <http://www.weather.com/> for interactive maps), STAY OFF THE AIR, disconnect (and ground, if possible) your antennas, and unplug your rigs from AC power. If you have NCS or liaison duty, and you are able, please let me or Rodney know via E-Mail or phone call (thanks, Charlie) so we can scramble to fill in (assuming we are not also under severe weather).

Scott, W5ESE, sent out January's TSN corner separately, so only the newest one from February will be provided here.

Until next month,
73, Steve

(TSN Corner appears on the next page)



TSN Corner

Texas Slow Net (Daily) 1945 CT 3552.0 Khz

http://www.geocities.com/scottamcmullen/Texas_Slow_Net.html

Scott McMullen W5ESE

TSN Net Manager

TSN participation was down a bit this month, owing in part to the fact that February is a short month.

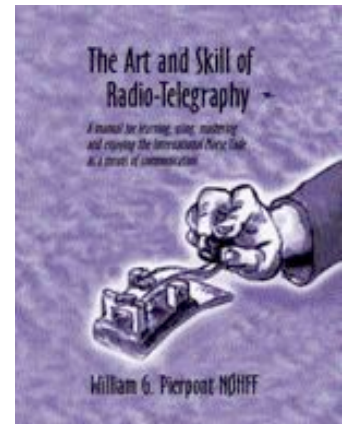
Here is a list of stations that have participated in the Slow Net in recent months. Welcome to new stations WD0ESF (Mike), AG9G (Dwight), and K9PUI (Dick), all stations from the mid-west. We're glad you are taking advantage of the extended range of 80m during the winter to participate in TSN!

Net Stations (QNS)

Call	Name	City	State	Call	Name	City	State
K0CMH	Craig	St. Louis	MO	WB5NKC	Arley	Oklahoma City	OK
WX5CW	Chris	Ruston	LA	WB5NKD	Pat	Oklahoma City	OK
W5DY	Rodney	Goliad	TX	N5NVP	Jim	Leesville	LA
W5ESE	Scott	Dripping Springs	TX	K9PUI	Dick	Indianapolis	IN
WD0ESF	Mike	Medicine Lodge	KS	K5RDW	RD	Vilonia	AR
AG9G	Dwight	Phillips	WI	KI5T	Wade	Walker	LA
AA5J	Chuck	Plano	TX	KB5TCH	Carroll	Douglassville	TX
AA5JW	Carl	Stafford	TX	KD5TXD	Pat	Kingsville	TX
K5KV	Benny	Prarieville	LA	AD5VC	Dana	Baton Rouge	LA
WA5LOU	Lou	Kennard	TX	N5XGG	Joe	Colmesneil	TX
KD5MMM	Phil	Fentress	TX	KM5YQ	David	Irving	TX

'The Art and Skill of Radio-Telegraphy' by William G. Pierpont, N0HFF

This book was written to collect and preserve research that the author undertook into the best methods to learn the radiotelegraph code and build proficiency. It includes interesting historical tidbits about how the telegraph code was invented, the speed contests that once were ubiquitous at hamfests, and the different types of sending apparatus. The book is free and can be downloaded and printed from a pdf file. Look for it at <http://www.qsl.net/n9bor/n0hff.htm> .



7290 Traffic Net Picnic

The 7290 Traffic Net Picnic is scheduled for May 3, at Riverbend Park in Smithville, Texas. This is a popular outing with traffic handlers from several traffic nets. Jo Ann Keith, the 7290 Net Manager, asked me to be sure to extend an invitation to everyone on TSN. See Page 1 of this newsletter for more info.

February Activity Report

TOTAL SESSIONS 29

TOTAL CHECKINS 121

TOTAL TRAFFIC 35

BY 16 DIFFERENT STATIONS

The telegraph key image is courtesy of FCIT