

## April 2012 Nebraska Section News

The school semester is over. The finals are graded and the grades are posted. Now to get on to other things.

It was a difficult month because we lost one of our iconic hams. Steve May, WA0ASM, was deeply dedicated to amateur radio. He brought many into the hobby. He was a ready resource, a very knowledgeable person, and had the personality that offered help with that slight push of teasing that gave you what you wanted to know and the motivation to get it done. Steve was known to virtually all hams in the eastern part of the state. He and XYL Dianna, WD0FGV, attended many ham events -- like Victoria Springs. Steve was also a leader and consistent participant in Nebraska HF nets. He will be missed. My condolences to Dianna, Steve's family, and his many, many friends.

Matt Anderson, KA0BOJ, sent me a note about the passing of Tadhg Jackson, KB0OZD. Tag was 36. I almost wrote that he suffered from cerebral palsy. But that's not right. He lived with cerebral palsy. Tag was an expert with personal computers. He volunteered with the League of Community Dignity and Lincoln Action. He also worked with State Sen.

Bill Avery on child welfare reform. I don't think I ever met Tag, but I know from what I read and what people told me that he lived a full and giving life. I extend condolences to his family and friends.

Thinking about Tag reminded me of a ham friend I had when I was in my teens. I don't remember his call, but Bill had cerebral palsy. When I first met him on the air (40 meter AM!), I had a lot of trouble understanding him. In fact, I was embarrassed to talk with him because I wasn't sure what he was saying. But Bill was incredibly patient. He repeated as much as necessary. We had talked almost weekly when I was first a ham. The contacts were more infrequent by the time I left for college. But by then, I rarely had to ask him to repeat anything.

Through his persistence, I had learned to understand him. That is one of the wonderful facets of our hobby. We can get to know and appreciate people who we wouldn't otherwise have a chance to meet.

Field Day is a little less than two months away. Once again, I would like to visit as many field day sites as I can. I would especially like to visit those in Western Nebraska. So please let me know where your field day sites will be and I'll see what I can do to get there.

Dave Theophilus, W0NRW, sent an email encouraging hams to get the word out to the public about Field Day and amateur radio. He recommends using and customizing a poster provided by the ARRL. Here is the link to the ARRL posters:

<http://www.arrl.org/shop/Field-Day-Poster-2012-pack-of-25/>

Hopefully the gods of propagation (and the sunspots) will give us a fun event this year.

Although my schedule kept me from being on the air a lot, I did have a chance to listen in on the revised 60 meter band. It's going to take a bit before things get sorted out, but having digital modes allowed on that band offers us some new propagation to explore. At times, 60 meters has been reasonably open while 40 has been pretty quiet. Take the time to check it out. You do have to be a little careful setting up your transmitter, however, to make sure you are within the power and bandwidth limitations.

That's it for this month.

73, Art KOAIZ

Art Zygielbaum, K AIZ  
ARRL Nebraska Section Manager

Section Traffic Manager and Section Emergency Coordinator

[Note: The new ARRL website has some wrinkles to be ironed out. I can't post tables, yet. Sorry for the harder to read format in this section--Art, K AIZ]

Net Reports - March 2012

Nebraska 40 Meter Net, Sessions 25, QNI 272, QTC 1, Reported by KL7MH Nebraska Cornhusker Net, Sessions 29, QNI 315, QTC 6, Reported by WA0ASM Nebraska CW Net, Sessions 20, QNI 98, QTC 2, Reported by WA0ASM Nebraska Morning Phone Net, Sessions 30, QNI 1727, QTC 28, Reported by KA0DOC Nebraska Storm Net, Sessions 30, QNI 1477, QTC 5, Reported by AG0L One Sixty Meter Weather Net, Sessions, no report West Nebraska Net, Sessions 27, QNI 1357, QTC 206, Reported by KORRL Buffalo County ARES, Sessions, no report Dodge County ARES, Sessions 4, QNI 18, QTC 1, Reported by KC0KKE Douglas County ARES, Sessions 4, QNI 79, QTC 25, Reported by WOAAI Eastern Nebraska ARES Net, Sessions 31, QNI 685, QTC 1, Reported by KNORKY Mid-Nebraska ARES Net, Sessions 13, QNI 112, QTC 1, Reported by KCOMWM

NPPARC, Sessions 4, QNI 38, QTC 0, Reported by W0DED Platte Valley 2-Meter Net, Sessions 4, QNI 39, QTC 0, Reported by KW0R

WOIRZ Memorial ARES Net, Sessions 4, QNI 78, QTC 2, Reported by WOWHY

\* Net Report Legend: Sessions=Number of times net called, QNI=Number of Station Check-ins, QTC=Formal Traffic Count

Traffic Totals

Traffic Count: K PTK 157, PSHR total=100

Public Service Honor Roll

(Please visit <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/pshr/> for more information about the honor roll.)

KA DBK 60 points

KB YTM 26 points

Nebraska Section Nets

Net name, frequency, meets, time CDT, time utc

40 Meter Net, 7.282, Daily, 1300, 1800

Cornhusker Net, 3.982, Daily, 1230, 1730 CW Traffic Net, 3.540, M-F, 1900, 0000 Morning Phone Net, 3.982, Daily, 0730, 1230 One Sixty Weather Net, 1.995, Daily, 1930, 0130 Storm Net, 3.982, Daily, 1830, 2330 or 0130 West Nebraska Net, 3.950, M-S, 0700, 1200

Notes from the Section Traffic Manager:

We finally received some snow and now can't wait for it to melt. Snow and cold weather means it's time to start doing the antenna work.

Looking back on the several years I have had the opportunity to be your Nebraska Section Traffic Manager, it's really the Net Managers and Net Controls that make the Nebraska nets run so smoothly. Collecting and reporting the monthly numbers is the easy part. My thanks to those who have faithfully been a part of the nets for so many years. Many of you have been checking in and helping for more years than I can count.

Looking for any historical notes you may have about any of the Nebraska Section Nets. Please send me your articles, stories, remembrances, pictures or anecdotes you may have. We will add to the monthly summaries.

Please report your individual traffic monthly totals to me at: [nf0n@arrl.net](mailto:nf0n@arrl.net) I also check in to several nets daily, you can send to me on the net. I welcome your comments and suggestions.

Mike, NF N

#### OFFICIAL OBSERVER REPORTS

March 2011 Hours

KE6DZD - 133  
WB MWB - 35  
KB ZZT - 230  
WB WXS - 28  
W3PRR - 12  
W HXL - 0  
WB CMC - 43  
KE X - 100  
AC DQ - 60  
KA JTI - 35

N XY, W WFM - no report

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ARRL Nebraska Section  
Section Manager: Arthur I Zygielbaum, K0AIZ [k0aiz@arrl.org](mailto:k0aiz@arrl.org)  
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