

**Empire Slow Speed  
Net  
Founded 1955 by  
K2DYB**

**Daily  
6 PM Local Time  
3576 kHz**

# The ESS Bulletin

**Pete Gellert W2WSS Memorial Net**  
**October 2010**



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## Net Control Stations

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
K2ABX	WA2YOW	WE2G	W2RBA	WB2GTG	KB2ETO	WI2G

## SEPTEMBER ROSTER

AA2JI	Duane	Rushford	1	WA2IAX	Jim	Sidney	6
AB2WB	Pat	Ithaca	20	WA2WMJ	J. B.	Pine Bush	22
K2ABX	Paul	Apalachin	22	WA2YOW	C. J.	Staten Island	5
K2DYB	Nat	Verona	27	WB2GHH	Jack	Binghamton	1
K2MMW	Bill	Milford	4	WB2YOR	Tom	Clifton Park	14
K2NPN	Phil	Marcy	26	WE2G	Tom	Hudson	25
K2TV	Bob	Copiague	7	WI2G	Anne	Elma	16
K4LV	Rich	Marcy	21	K1PJS	Pete	Concord NH	25
KA2OQB	Dan	Whitesboro	3	N1JX	Arnold	Roseland NJ	28
KB2ETO	Bill	Dryden	18	W1LUH	Joe	Stamford CT	22
KC2HTP	John	Bainbridge	4	AA2SV	Willie	Brick NJ	18
KT2D	Bob	Latham	8	W2EAG	Mark	New Bern NC	6
N2SKP	Shirley	Verplanck	3	WB2GTG	Bill	Easton PA	11
N2UC	John	Holland Patent	26	K3ZYK	Bill	Penn Run PA	5
W2CS	Gary	North Chatham	2	WA3JXW	Dudley	Temple PA	3
W2MTA	Bill	Newark Valley	13	AB8CR	Steve	Glenville WV	1
W2PL	Phil	Lawrenceville	2	KA8WNO	Jack	Coalton WV	5
W2RBA	Joe	Mount Vision	28				

**September Totals:** QNI 449, per session 15.0 (Aug 13.6); QSP 78, per session 2.6 (Aug 2.8). Many thanks for another good month, although we can still use more traffic; we had way too many goose-egg sessions this month (seven out of 30), and net reports for ye manager make up a disproportionate share of the total. The efforts of those stations who generate the occasional message to a fellow net member are deeply appreciated, and there's always birthdays! Since WB2GTG's rig has been limping along these last few weeks on low power (10 watts), Bill is still checking in but currently unable to cover his Thursday NCS slot. Until he's back at full power, if you'd like to try your hand at running a session, please feel free to pick it up. You can't keep a great ham down; sure enough, W2MTA was back on the air within hours of Bill's return home and all is now right with the world. Congratulations to this month's net-certificate awardees KC2HTP and WA2YOW. It's no slight to John to say that it's a special pleasure to give CJ his wallpaper every year; not only does CJ hold down the Monday NCS slot despite an indoor antenna, but it was his idea--suggested at the 2005 golden-jubilee picnic--to "retire" W2WSS' call as a club call. He understood how creepy it would be to hear Pete's call on the air again as a monogram, vanity callsign. **Birthdays:** **October**--KA2IWK 8, WA2CUW 16, AA2JI 20 and KA2ZNZ 21. **November**--N2SKP 4, N2YHQ 5 and K2UL 22. Additions/corrections as ever to Suzi Sunshine, who has used last month's yellowjacket encounter as an excuse--it never takes much, especially this time of year--to cease even her feeble attempts at weeding.

## *Thru Traffic*

While it is rare that you will hear traffic listed as "thru" on ESS, if you also check into your section or region net you will occasionally hear traffic listed as "thru"--QTC THRU 2, for example. This means that the traffic is being carried through to a higher- or lower-level net; it's meant to be counted as part of that net session's traffic total, but is not expected to be passed to another checkin on that particular net. Keeping a record of "thru" traffic helps to maintain a chain of accountability on the traffic as it flows from TCC (Transcontinental Corps) through to area, region, section and local nets and its ultimate delivery. All traffic, of course, does not necessarily pass through all the levels of NTS; often, a message will "get on" the system at the local or section level. If a section-net rep is also going to a later region and area net (as is often the case; the EAN crowd is surprisingly small, and it doesn't take long to know--and be known by--the other ops, which to me is part of its appeal), s/he will list whatever traffic is collected on the section net as "thru" on the region net en route to EAN. On the way down the NTS ladder--as it were--a 2RN-receive station on EAN who is also going to NJN/L might get a total of three messages for NY and two for the Garden State. On 2RN/930 the traffic would be listed as QTC NY 3 THRU 2. If there is another rep going to NJ (as we always hope there is), the traffic of course would be listed as NY 3 NJ 2.

If you're the NCS and someone comes in with thru traffic, how is it listed on the net report? There are two ways to do it, and each net manager has his or her own preference. For 2RN cycles 2 and 3 (the daytime phone sessions at 1:45 and 6:30 pm on 3925 kHz), W2MTA prefers that it be listed separately--QTC 3/3 (PLUS) 2 THRU (NO THRU if there's no through traffic). On 2RN/745 and /930, I don't mind seeing it as part of the total traffic; a session with three pieces cleared and two carried thru can most easily be reported as QTC 5/5, and I assume there is no thru traffic unless otherwise specified. Either method is correct; the most important thing is that the traffic be somehow accounted for between the area and section (and/or local) nets.

## *Accuracy Always!*

Don't be afraid of book traffic because you think it will take forever to copy and you'll get tired and start to make mistakes. The other night on EAN, K4IWW in North Carolina listed six messages for 2RN. Since I have become extremely lazy due to the general dearth of traffic and wanted to get back to the TV between nets, I cringed. As I'd hoped, though, it was book traffic and much easier than this it doesn't get--new-ham traffic, all to the same address and phone number in Corona (perhaps students at my nearby alma mater, Queens College). Anyway--which made me think that they might be foreign students--all the addressees had unfamiliar-to-an-English-speaker, East Asian names. Will, though, is one of the great ones on CW and his spacing is impeccable (which, especially in this case, made all the difference). I was uncertain of only one thing; I copied IEONG which, since a couple of the names appeared Chinese, looked to me like it should have been LEONG. So I drew a quick squiggle under the word which, I learned from W2WSS, reminds me either to confirm or to get a fill before rogering the traffic. Will confirmed IEONG, which kinda made me go "hmm" but at least reassured me I could still copy near-random text. Fortunately, I had a few minutes before 2RN to check qrz.com; while I certainly don't recommend rogering traffic you haven't completely copied as a general rule, I'd be lying if I said I've never QSLed a message (as an alternative to tying up a net or a station, especially in poor conditions) with the hope I could unravel part of it later. Sure enough, qrz.com had IEONG--as of course it would, I realized on reflection, since the rest of this name wasn't Chinese (may have been Cambodian or Laotian, while another name looked Vietnamese--it was an interesting linguistic exercise once I stopped sweating).

There are two points to this--trust your ability to copy, and assume nothing. It's trite--but true--that when you *assume*, you make an *ass* out of *u* and *me*. Don't hesitate to ask for fills (or a confirmation), but if you're reasonably certain you got it right--which doesn't, of course, preclude its being garbled before it reaches you--go with your gut. Just because it *looks* wrong doesn't (necessarily) mean it *is* wrong!

*Check those antennas before winter! 73 de Anne*