

**STM Report
Wisconsin Section
May 2020**

Volunteers

FAQ # 226 What should I know about the care and feeding of volunteers?

Volunteers are sometimes hard to find. They're not as often self-motivated as they are requested and nurtured. If the need is made apparent, their generosity kicks in and (with encouragement) they offer some essential time and effort. Today, there are myriads of volunteer opportunities, so getting one to help in your cause may take careful planning and sincere, repeated requests. Complaining, negative criticism, or shaming won't work.

Once you have volunteers, show them some respect. It's appropriate to explain why you value their expertise and willingness to serve. Don't waste their time by asking them to help when they're not needed or by telling them what they already know.

Give clear directions. Volunteers may have no idea of what their mission is. Be explicit about their task. E.G. "Your job at the fire station is to monitor the 145.49 repeater and 146.55 simplex. You'll take messages from the EOC, hospital, and shelters and pass them to the EC. Keep a copy and log each message. You'll give that log to the Emergency Manager when she asks. Your relief operator should be here at 7 tonight."

You've solicited volunteers for a reason. You know they have the skills your operation can use. Tell them you value those skills and let them do their work. Don't micro-manage. Instead, try the time-tested method of MBWA (Management By Walking Around). See what happens. Take notes. Make major suggestions later.

Offer to help. Never hesitate to ask your volunteers what they need in order to do their job. Equipment, forms, space, assistants? Show your appreciation by trying to provide what you can. If a volunteer needs correction, do it privately and politely.

During, and especially after, an event, accept your volunteers' input. Folks in the trenches often have a much clearer view of what's needed to make things run smoothly. Listen to what they say and be aware of what they *don't* say. Use their input at a debriefing and give credit for good suggestions.

Volunteers are valuable. Care for them properly in return for their service, and you'll be able to count on them for years. 73 – K9LGU/STM

Here are some notes from the recent Wisconsin Nets Association, Ltd. Meeting. KB9ROB will be distributing the complete minutes.

Notes for Minutes from WNA Meeting 06-06-20

Meeting called to order by NX9K at 12:27 PM on 3985 KHz following the BEN. WNA, Ltd. Purpose reviewed.

Roll: Chair: NX9K, STM: K9LGU, ASTM: N9VC, Secretary: KB9ROB, Treasurer : W9RTP Members-at-Large: WD9FLJ, KA9BAE, WB9ICH

BWN: DELEGATE - AG9G Delegate -

BEN: DELEGATE - WD9FLJ Delegate

WSBN: - KN9P/ NM

WSSN: - KB9ROB/NM

WIN/E: - WB9ICH/NM

WIN/L: - W9RTP/NM

WARES HF: - WB9WKO/NM

WARES VHF: – NONE

WARES DIGITAL: – NONE

WDSTAR – NONE

VISITORS: KB9NUM, K9GDF

KB9ROB: Minutes from the meeting of March 7, 2020, - Motion to approve minutes as published (WD9FLJ WB9ICH) Carried.

KB9ROB: Secretary's Report Relaying helps. Nets are surviving.

W9RTP: Treasurer's Report – W9RTP reported a balance of 349.55 Out of checks but money can be transferred electronically for bill paying, etc. .

NX9K, Chair. The next WNA Meeting will be held on September 12 after the BEN.

K9LGU: Section Traffic Manager's Report – Please pass these along to your nets.

Thanks to every station who checks in to our nets, sends traffic, takes traffic, delivers traffic, or stands by while it's being done. And a special thank you for following our net protocol, obeying the net control, and avoiding discussion of politics, religion, or other controversial topics on the traffic nets.

Remember, if you need the attention of the net control for a relay or to offer assistance, just say your call. And when your transmissions are over – end with your call. That tells the net control you're done.

During the visiting on a net, a good net control does not have to respond to each station's comments. The efficient NCS keeps things flowing and takes frequent stand-bys to list traffic and allow others to join the net.

Use of RMS or other modes to supplement our traffic handling is great, but don't forget to go old school once in a while and handle a message in the long form by hearing it and writing it down. It's good listening practice and we might not always have those digital modes or a keyboard available.

Please encourage newcomers to the nets to ask questions. Even their careful listening might not be enough to feel comfortable with the traffic process. If you pass traffic to someone who isn't familiar with the format, NTS or ICS213, slow down. Be ready to explain.

In sending a message by voice, we just say "break" before and after the text. We don't have to say why we break. We don't have to say "Break for text" or "Break for signature." The receiver already knows why we break.

In answer to some questions about message texts, the word *voicemail* is one word according to the Chicago Style Manual. That will help keep the check accurate. You don't need an x-ray at the end of the text because there's already a break there. Figures are voiced individually. And, of course, there's no "S" on 73.

If there's a formal message intended for the net, every station should copy it. These are training nets. If you don't copy the message, ask for fills. Ask for a relay. Ask for the message again, but *get* the message. That's the practice we're there for. Don't wait until

the net is over and then say, "I couldn't copy the message. It's just too noisy."

In these days of staying physically apart, please be especially friendly to every Ham you contact on the radio. We can't know the challenges and concerns of other operators, but we can be good listeners and we can be supportive. That's an important contribution of our hobby.

ASTM Report – N9VC – ASST STM WI – Jim pointed out digital traffic as seen a surge lately. On traffic nets, net controls should always take traffic before second goes. Nice to see KC9FXE generate traffic, too. Wisconsin's stations look very good in the QST listings. (Note - The full report will be included with the minutes from KB9ROB.)

BWN Report – AG9G DELEGATE – K9LUK is still serving well as NM. The net continues to plug away with dedicated net controls and a couple of alternates. Relay stations are especially appreciated when conditions necessitate it. 28-30 stations per day are typical with 30-40 messages. Dwight also acknowledged the use of WECOMM and thanked those providing that system as an essential adjunct to the BWN.

BEN Report – WD9FLJ – DELEGATE Total stations for the BEN this year is 2233. Traffic: 1716. Time: 3963 minutes in 162 sessions. Thanks for all who contribute to the net's success.

WSBN Report – KN9P /NM – Mike indicated that the net's doing fine. Welcome to K9ILJ as NCS. May saw 659 stations with 277 pieces of traffic in 1124 minutes during 31 sessions. Many thanks to the relays. Moving to 3986 is often an option due to interference.

WSSN Report – KB9ROB/NM – Dean reminded folks about the QJN – although "The net's not a joke." May tallied QNI 198 QTC 1198 in 535 minutes in 31 sessions. On the 27th of May the WSSN handled 25 pieces of traffic with five check-ins. Without the efforts of N9VC, K9GDF, K9LGU, and AG9G, the WSSN wouldn't have seen such good results.

WIN/E Report – WB9ICH/NM – Larry reported quarterly 514 check-ins, 458 pieces of traffic in 953 minutes. About 15 hours of net time for those 3 months. Avg. QNI 5-6. Avg. pcs of traffic 3-8. Avg net time is 9 minutes. There are openings for 9RN reps and NCS.

WIN/L Report – W9RTP/NM reminded us the net meets nightly on 3555 at ten. The alternate freq. of 1805 has not been needed lately. Net controls are faithful, but more alternates would be nice. For the month, avg. 6 check ins with 6 pieces of traffic from 9rn. Some of that is handled peer-to-peer digitally. 260 mins. in 31 sessions this past month. Net running smoothly but weekend contests sometimes get in the way

WARES/RACES HF Net Report – WB9WKO/NM – Ron commented that his net the month of May had 109 check ins with 22 pieces of traffic . This year 463 check-ins handled 102 messages in 917 minutes on 22 Sundays. WECOMM is used as support when HF conditions require. Thanks to all who help.

WARES/RACES VHF Report – no delegate - no report
WARES/RACES DIGITAL Net Report – no delegate - no report

OLD BUSINESS - There is no need for new checks. Transfers can be made electronically if needed. W9RTP mentioned discussion of the Treasurer's position. There is a continued

need for the position and W9RTP would be willing to relinquish the position when election comes if anyone is interested in the position.

NEW BUSINESS – K9GDF thanked traffic handlers for doing an efficient job with traffic he has generated recently..

ADJOURNMENT – (**KN9P. WD9FLJ**) Carried. Adjourned at 1:15 PM.

WISCONSIN SECTION

STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY

May 2020

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
NX9K	529	133	664	0	1326 - BPL
WB9WKO	3	523	407	20	953 - BPL
AG9G	0	238	121	1	360
K9LGU	0	165	158	0	323
N9VC	0	193	44	0	237
KA9BAE	0	51	69	0	120
K9GDF	0	37	70	1	103
KB9ROB	0	61	22	12	95
WD9FLJ	0	47	34	6	87
KB9NUM	0	32	18	26	79
KC9FXE	0	22	41	14	77
W9UW	0	36	40	1	77
KN9P	0	38	14	8	60
K9GU	0	0	32	0	32
K9ILJ	0	11	7	4	22
WB9ICH	0	13	2	0	15
W9RNA	0	5	2	5	12
W9AUA	0	3	5	0	8

You can find out more about the BPL Award here:

<http://www.arrl.org/ares-el?issue=2013-01-16#toc08>

WISCONSIN SECTION MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY

May 2020

NET	QNI CHECK -INS	QTC TRAFFIC	QTR TIME IN MINUTES	SSNS SESSIONS	NM NET MANAGER
BWN	1059	1114	2586	31	K9LUK
BEN	454	397	840	31	NX9K
WSBN	659	277	1124	31	KN9P
WSSN	198	196	535	31	KB9ROB
WIN/E	177	84	260	31	WB9ICH
WIN/L	177	84	260	31	W9RTP
WIARES/RACES HF	109	22	214	5	WB9WKO
WIARES/RACES VHF	38	3	58	1	W9REL
WIARES/RACES DIGITAL	222	1374	5760	4	KB9MMC
WIDSTAR	NO REPORT	0	0	0	AB9FT
totals	3093	3551	11637	196	

WISCONSIN SECTION

P S H R SUMMARY

MAY 2020

POSSIBLE POINTS >	40 nets	40 tfc	30 appt	5/hr. sked events	5/hr. emrg events	10ea bbs/ web pg	
CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
N9VC	40	40	30	295	0	10	415
WB9WKO	40	40	30	45	35	0	190
K9LGU	40	40	30	20	30	0	160
KC9FXE	40	40	10	25	20	0	135
AG9G	40	40	20	25	0	0	125
K9ILJ	40	22	20	20	0	20	122
KN9P	40	40	20	0	0	0	100
NX9K	40	40	20	0	0	0	100

For questions about the Public Service Honor Roll see the ARRL website.

Here's a link: <http://www.arrl.org/public-service-honor-roll>