

STM Report
Wisconsin Section
October 2019

Pay Attention

FAQ # 219 I know I could learn to be a better operator by paying closer attention – but to what? If we focus on the little things in traffic handling, it can lead to marked improvement in our skills. The problem is that there are a lot of “little things” to notice.

One way to approach the plan for improvement in our operating is to concentrate on a few techniques at a time. Here are ten easy ones to start.

1. Don't confuse the number *zero* with the letter “o”. The number 307 is NOT 3 – oh – 7.
2. Count the X-RAYS in the text. They serve as periods and they are counted in the text.
3. Remember that ARL numbered radiograms are always spelled out in the text and they're always translated into common language when they're delivered – even to Hams.
4. Preface any figures, initials, letter groups, or mixed groups with prowords.
5. Spell out any homonyms like “to” or “for.”
6. Pace yourself as you say the message to be sure the receiver can write that fast.
7. In NTS format, start by saying the word “Number” and the message number, but don't label the parts of the preamble. In ICS-213 format say if there's nothing in block one.
8. If you're using the ICS-213 form or another non-NTS format for a message, warn the receiving operator.
9. Use the ITA phonetic alphabet whenever there's a chance you might be misunderstood.
10. Writing texts in five-word lines makes them easier to count to compare to the check.

Maybe you've already incorporated those ten hints in your operating and they're second nature. Good. Now try these.

1. Listen carefully to the net control station and keep track of what's happening on the net. Don't be distracted by trying to multi-task if you don't have to.
2. Try to be more succinct in your messages and even in your comments to the net. Brevity increases interest.
3. Keep the net control aware of your actions. If you must leave a net, let the NCS know.
4. For more efficiency, use break tags when they're appropriate.
5. Volunteer to take traffic to another net in the NTS when needed.
6. Familiarize yourself with calls, names, and locations of regular net participants. This is especially important for net controls.
7. Don't rely too heavily on one mode. If you pass all your traffic via RMS, taking simple voice messages may not become automatic. Practice various modes.
8. Fix things. If you suspect a bad cable, check it out. If you're not being heard, re-check your antenna. If you need to adjust your transmitter, take time to do it right.
9. If you observe a problem with someone's signal, let 'em know by politely making suggestions for a possible solution.
10. Generate some traffic to keep the system tested. If we don't feed it, it will starve, i.e. it will not be ready when it's really needed.

Pay attention to the little things. That's a big way to improve. And there's no “S” on 73. It's already plural. 73 – K9LGU

WISCONSIN SECTION MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY

October 2019

NET	QNI CHECK- INS	QTC TRAFFIC	QTR TIME	SSNS SESSIONS	NM
BWN	907	999	2553	31	K9LUK
BEN	411	368	873	31	NX9K
WSBN	559	273	1025	31	KN9P
WSSN	198	87	446	31	KB9ROB
WIN/E	161	65	244	31	WB9ICH
WIN/L	128	52	212	31	W9RTP
WRACES HF	109	50	230	5	WB9WKO
WRACES VHF	19	0	25	1	W9REL
WRACES- DIGITAL	241	1371	7200	5	KB9MMC
W DSTAR	109	1	212	9	AB9FT
totals	2842	3266	13020	206	

WISCONSIN SECTION

P S H R SUMMARY

October 2019

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	305	0	10	425
K9LGU	40	40	30	60	0	0	170
WB9WKO	40	40	30	40	10	10	170
AG9G	40	40	20	65	0	0	165
NX9K	40	40	20	35	0	0	135
KN9P	40	40	20	0	0	0	100

WISCONSIN SECTION

STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY

October 2019

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
WB9WKO	0	951	781	1	1733 -BPL
NX9K	418	160	518	0	1096- BPL
N9VC	0	161	108	0	269
AG9G	0	152	99	1	252
K9LGU	0	80	126	0	206
WD9FLJ	0	55	47	2	104
KB9ROB	0	50	17	12	79
KA9BAE	0	35	40	0	75
KN9P	0	41	11	12	64
KB9NUM	0	23	19	18	60
K9GU	0	0	32	0	32
W9RTP	0	26	5	0	31
W9UW	0	11	18	0	29
W9AUA	0	8	4	0	12
WB9ICH	0	9	3	0	12
W9RNA	2	3	2	3	10
WB9NRK	0	4	4	0	8
K9GDF	0	6	1	0	7