

SUMMARY
7290 TRAFFIC NET PICNIC
MAY 31, 2014

The 44th annual 7290 Traffic Net Picnic was held May 31, 2014 at the SPJST Lodge in Beyersville/Taylor, Texas. This year's picnic was dedicated to George K5BMR our Assist Manager.

Our, now traditional Friday night dinner was at the Sirloin Stockade in Taylor. This year there were 34 people attending.

Members started arriving at the Lodge building around 8 AM for coffee and donuts. The antenna was put up by John W5BWC and Jim W5IM for Norman AD5EF to call the net at 10 AM. Norman had 98 check ins to the net not counting those in attendance. The Texas Traffic Net was called from the Lodge building by Sharon KC8EO at 6:30.

The ladies went on an excursion into Taylor led by Aris KB5RXS and Evelyn Weinzial xyl of N5ZAS. They seemed to have good time but were tired when they returned.

We kept Jean Feeney xyl of Alton KT4KL busy in the kitchen keeping everything filled and organized. At least she didn't have to mop up a water leak this time.

A new feature this year was a light lunch provided by the Net for those that didn't want to go into town. The group ate three loafs of bread, cheese and three large packages of lunch meat, along with pickles and 50 packages of chips. The lunch was so well received it will become an annual event.

Tom W5UFO was here again this year with his ice cream machine. He made two batches, which is 10 gallons, of ice cream and there was only a couple of left over containers remaining. Tom has become a regular feature of our picnic and I think there would be a revolt if he wasn't there to make his wonderful desert.

League officials attending were Lee W5LHC S TX Section Manager. K5RAV was unable to attend due to having day surgery and N5AUS had a work commitment and was unable to attend. Rodney W5DY S TX Traffic Manager and TX CW Traffic Net Assist Manager was also in attendance. Net Managers attending were Sharon KC8EO Manager of the Texas Traffic Net, Roger KD5OTH Manager of the Daytime Texas Traffic Net and Steve K6JT Manager TX CW Net and Chairman NTS Central Area Staff. Steve announced this year's recipient of the Pfeiffer Pfist Award was Sam W5CU. Sam was unable to attend the picnic but was presented the award by K6JT at HamCom in Plano.

The Whitney Nugget was presented to Jim W5IM. We appreciate everything Jim does for the net and Ham Radio in general, he was a very deserving recipient.

Our Net Chaplain, Ray N5NAV, read our silent keys and said a prayer for them. Unfortunately we had 19 net members that are no longer with us since the last picnic.

Norman AD5EF took our group picture again this year, which took a little arranging this year with the great attendance. Norman had a new camera and it took great pictures.

Our Net Chaplain, Ray N5NAV, said grace before we had our meal of BBQ brisket and sausage, potato salad, beans and tea. Our caterers, Meyers Elgin Smokehouse, did their normal super job on our meal. While we are eating their wonderful meal, they are enjoying Tom's wonderful ice cream. We had 85 members joining us for dinner this year, which is the biggest turn out in a long time.

After dinner and everyone had their second or third bowl of ice cream or some of the delicious looking deserts that everyone brought, names were drawn for the door prizes.

More good fellowship followed and then after dark Eric W9GVW set up his telescope for viewing of the stars.

Clean up went extremely fast because everyone just pitched in and it was done. Thanks to everyone one that helped. Jim W5IM sure handles a mop well, maybe he will hire out!

I would like to say how privileged I feel to be a part of this net, you are wonderful group and I appreciate the family feel of the Net and our once a year get together. Thanks to all the net managers and league officials that attended and spoke to the group. Also a big thanks to all that helped with preparations. That made the picnic a lot of fun and go smoothly, it would be very hard for one person to do all that was done. Thanks also to everyone that brought deserts and white elephants for door prizes.

For all you that couldn't attend this year, I hope you will mark your calendar for May 30 which is the date of the 2015 Picnic at the same Lodge building. We would love to have you join us. If you would like to look at this year's program, you may do so by clicking the link at the top of the picnic photo page.

73 and 33 and hope to see you next year,

Jo Ann Keith KA5AZK
Net Manager 7290 Traffic Net