



**2007 Review**

# **Michigan Section NTS**

## **2007 Review**

2008-01-19



## Overall Observations

- Poor conditions at the ends of the year
- New net managers
  - The Michigan Net
  - Michigan Traffic Net
  - Southeastern Michigan Traffic Net
- 8RN representation continues to be a problem
- Much of the work handled by a few stations



The bottom of the sunspot cycle has brought challenges to the evening nets in the winter. 80 gets long, and although QMN had some success with 160 meters, few people have the real estate for that band. MITN and GLETN have changed their net times in response, but that hasn't been completely successful.

QMN voted K8AE to be the net's director, replacing K8SIW. Thank you Jim for many years of dedicated service. VE3EUI stepped up to take the helm at MITN, and K8AMR at SEMTN.

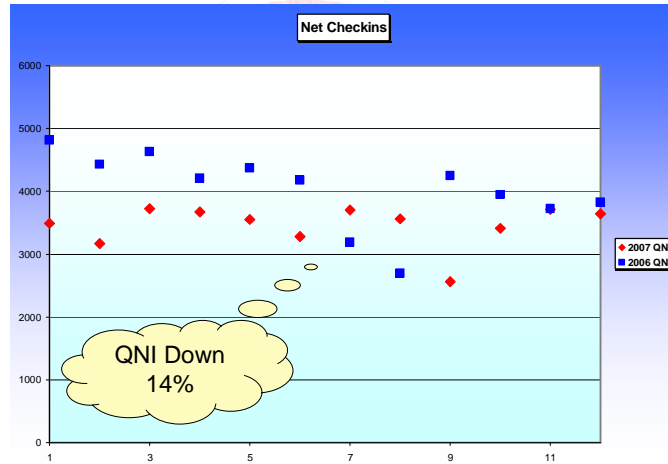
For the section nets, 8RN representation continues to be a problem, although most 8RN sessions are covered.

It does appear that most of the heavy lifting is being done by a few stations.



# QNI down over last year

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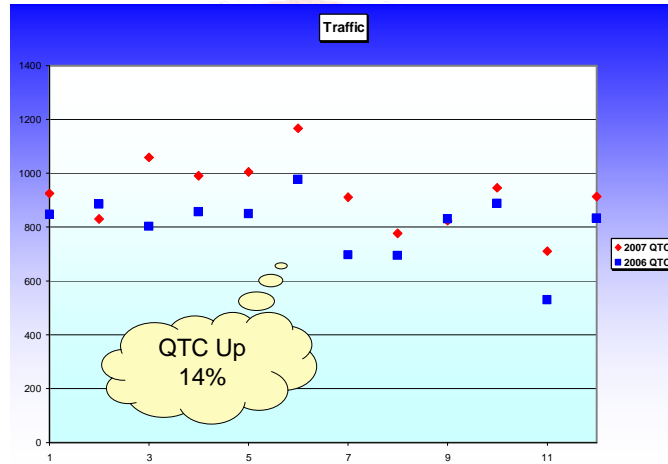
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QNI's were down over last year, fairly consistently across the year.



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# But QTC up



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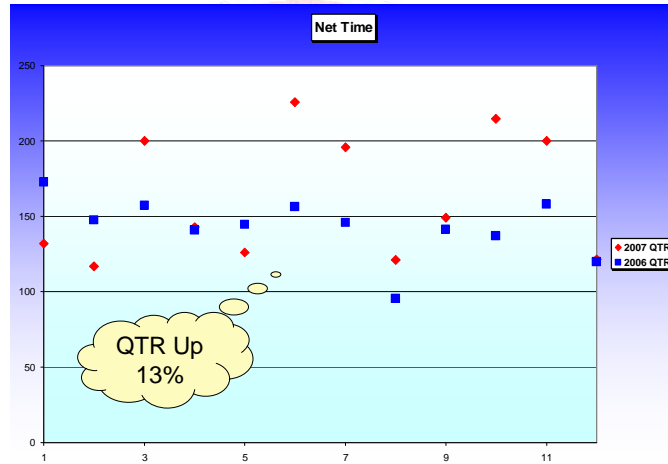
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Interestingly, traffic handled was up. 1,300 QTC's were handled over the number handled in 2006, which was up 3,000 over the year before.



# QTR Up, but inconsistent

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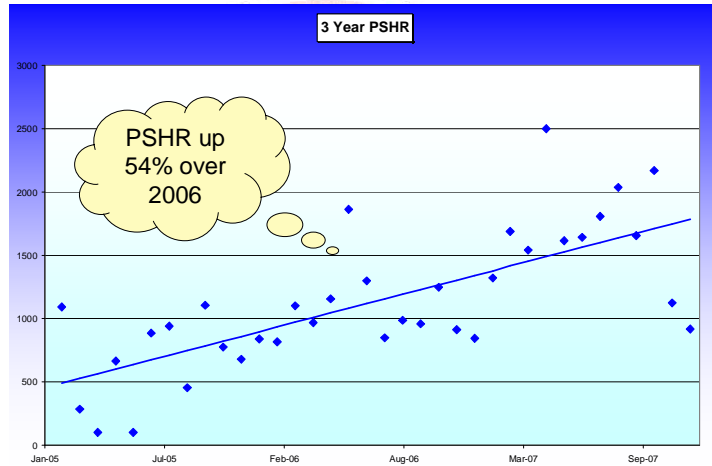
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Interestingly, net runtime was much more scattered than the previous year. Total net time also up, in spite of fewer checkins.



# Individual PSHR up

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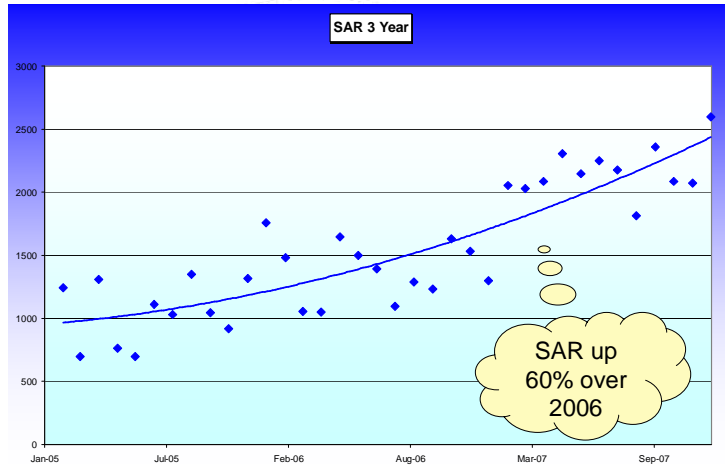
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PSHR reporting continues on it's upward trend. It is very encouraging to see this consistency.



## Also SAR

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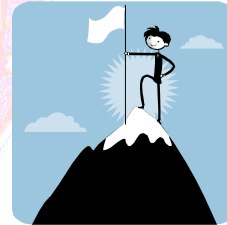
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SARs are also up, indicating that at least some of the PSHR growth is due to traffic, rather than just public service and emergency hours.



## 2007 Highlights

- Good participation in SET by nets
- WMTN growing, extended range, renamed to MVTN
- More participation by ARES groups in nets
- Traffic continuing to grow
  - >1,300 QTCs over 2006, although QNIs down
- NTSMI initiated, but little used so far



This year almost all the affiliated nets participated in SET. Some nets held multiple sessions during SET to accommodate the ARES needs. The VHF nets coordinated with nearby ARES programs and scheduled nets to meet their needs.

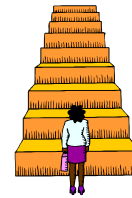
“Back in the day”, a packet message addressed to `zipcode@NTSMI` would make it to that zipcode (often to sit on a BBS somewhere waiting to be delivered). To provide that facility with our IP packet network, we have created a node called `ntsmi.ampr.org`, with some scripts to fish out the traffic. If a message is sent from one of the Michigan `ampr.net` nodes, to `zipcode@NTSMI`, that message will land on `ntsmi.ampr.org`, from which point it will be delivered to the appropriate phone or CW net.





## Challenges for 2008


- Not much different than last year:
  - How do we address participation if we can't even get people to think about it?
  - How can we mitigate the bad effects of "spam" traffic while exploiting the good?
  - Need more formal organization of net liaisons
  - Better integration with ARES
  - How do we better connect with NTSD?
  - How can we further exploit digital infrastructure?




Not too much has changed in the way of challenges since last year. We still feel the need to improve participation, although we are seeing slightly higher interest from ARES members.

By combining the SET and STM roles, we now have an advantage in moving forward with the integration of all the ARPSC services, and we have begun moving forward in that direction.

Now that we have a good digital infrastructure in place, we need to do a better job of using it, and also of integrating it with NTSD.



# Questions?



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Questions to [wb8rcr@arrl.net](mailto:wb8rcr@arrl.net), or ask them on the ARPSC net, Sundays, 1700 local on 3932.