



FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Bill K2NJ

“April Fool”

“bring on those antenna jobs”



Well, maybe I am pushing it a bit, but I am in a hurry to put up some new wires around the NJ yard. I have a Loop planned for 80 and a 3 element wire yagi planned for 40 pointing at Europe – along with a 2 El wire Quad for 30M... Ask me in the fall if any of them are up... and working!

I have received a lot of Email and even some snail mail concerning my comments on getting the Mobile stations to ID a bit more often. I am very happy to report to the membership this is a FIRST for me... EVERYONE agreed that the mobile stations are doing a poor job and improvements must be made.

Father Terry K6HZI wrote “I usually need about 10 or more ID’s before I can figure out what the county is” He hears the NCS say “Go ahead and put out LAMDOCH county and I know there is no LAMDOCH county – it could be MURDOCK? Or LAMB CHOP? If only I knew the state it would help”... “only to find out later it was BEE county Texas”...- Right on Terry... I could not have put it better myself

Jerry W3MAX gave 5 scenario’s on how to miss a county (when you just don’t work everything run on the nets).

- 1) The mobile doesn’t ID. I have to go. **I miss the county.**
- 2) The mobile doesn’t ID. I cannot hear net control or relay (if any). No last call. **I miss the county.**
- 3) The mobile doesn’t ID. I cannot hear net control or relay (if any). I finally hear the county on the mobiles ‘last call’. I have no time to check if I need it! **I miss the county.**
- 4) The mobile doesn’t ID. I cannot hear net control or relay (if any). I finally hear the county announced on the mobiles ‘last call’.

He says his call and/or the county too fast or garbled for me to understand. **I miss the county.**

5) The mobile and net control both announce the call and/or county too fast. I hear them OK. **I still miss the county.**

For those and other reasons I have missed a lot of counties. Still, I will not waste the net’s time by making unnecessary calls. Perhaps this is my burden. And Lord help me if I make the contact and ask the mobile where he is.

I could go on and on but hopefully the Mobiles will get a hint... and if they don’t, then its up to the NCS to smack em in the head... and if he doesn’t want to do it, then I will be in there asking the mobile if he wants someone to ID for him, since he isn’t... enuf said?

Hey, I like this... I can right click and the paste and I have my column done for the month... While I am at it, I have a note from Duane WV2B – change the subject quickly while nobody is watching...

We have decided to call the contest the “2003 US Counties QSO Party, SSB”, sponsored by MARAC. This will encourage participants who may otherwise not operate because they don’t consider themselves a “County Hunter”. We have simplified the rules, and plan to highlight the fact that it will be possible for participants to work the 500 counties needed to qualify for the basic USA-CA certificate during the contest period.

Scott (VE1OP the co-chair) is working to make the program “writelog” work to log the contest. He is not sure if this can be accomplished for this years test, but will try.

We have also moved the contest to May 17, 18. This should increase mobile participation with the better weather, and having the CW test 2 weeks earlier may give us some spillover participation and a major contest afterwards may encourage some contesters to try out the station in our test. Maybe some newer guys at the multis might give our test a try if the owner would let them op solo.

(President Continued from page 1)

These boys have been busy.... Lets support their efforts this year and it should be a bunch of fun getting stuff on different bands than we normally get them.

And while I am plagiarizing Here is from an Email from **Bob N4CD** regarding the BOD vote to put a start date on the new award "Masters Platinum".

There was a big discussion on putting a start date or not on this award (For the record, I was against it). Bob did some digging and came up with some precedence for this, and I have since changed my mind. So let me right click and drag it here...

The Bingo II and on award had a start date of July 10, 1997. No contacts before that were valid for doing the award a second time. Many people who had gotten bingo in the 1980s or before had to 'start over'.

The Master's Gold Award, the award you need to start on MP, had a start date of June 1, 1994. No contacts were valid before that.

The Washington Award had a start date of Feb 22, 1991

The YL/OM Team Award had a start date of Jan 1, 1990, and no contacts before that were valid (info from the marac awards info page)

Great job Bob, like I said – with a crew like this I sure look good.

Enuf ink for this month... Tell me what you want me to write about for May, remember I write it a month ahead and I will just have to enjoy my favorite holiday on the first. 73'

Bill Inkrote, K2NJ
MARAC President

Please Welcome Our New Members And Add Them To Your Database.

Marac # Call Name Address Cnty E mail

R-3077 WB5TWK Mary (Chris) C Jacobs 2185 Deer Run Lane Orange Park, FL 32003-7935 Clay wb5twk@arrl.net

R-3078 W1VA James M Johnston 1340 Hidden View Road Roanoke, VA 24015 Roanoke fjoh68@aol.com

R-3079 W0AEH Allen E Hatfield 7129 W. Fairview Littleton, CO 80128 Jefferson allhatfield@juno.com

Major Awards Issued For The Month Of March

KD9ZP - Awards Manager

Award	Number
LC-1	193
LC-2	4
LC-3	8
All Others	14

Call	Date	Award	Number
AE3Z	3/11/03	BINGO	230
WB9STT	3/3/03	BINGO II	25
AE3Z	3/27/03	Last County Count 100	177
K7TED	3/22/03	Last County Count 125	126
KM4FO	3/27/03	Last County Count 25	397
WG6X	3/12/03	Last County Count 250	51
N7ID	3/22/03	Last County Count 250	52

Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club

Treasurer's Report March 31, 2003

Funds Balance 2/28/03 \$27,973.40

Income:

Awards	\$ 284.00
Dues	\$ 953.00
Interest	\$ <u>5.15</u>
	\$1,242.15

Expenses:

Gene Olig – expenses	\$ 235.16
Fairmont Awards - awards	\$ 90.50
Dennis Hall - domain host fee	\$ 119.88
Print Rite, Inc – newsletter	\$ <u>558.45</u>
	\$1,003.99
	\$238.16

Account Balances:

	\$28,211.56
Money Market Account	\$25,737.98
Checking Account	\$ <u>2,473.58</u>
	\$28,211.56

Note:

The following monies are not included in the above:

Awards Chairman's Funds	\$1,200.00
Convention Chairman's Funds	\$2,500.00

Nomination for CW County Hunter of the Year

KN4Y – Ed Palagyi

Submitted by: W3DYA

Licensed: 1976 – Novice WN4/General WB4-1979 – Extra KN4Y MARAC #1441 USACA #757 – 3/17/92

Ed has been a CW mobile operator for nearly twenty years, starting in 1983 with an IC701 and Spider Antenna. He has activated most of the counties in the Southeast, and has given many of us a last county on the net or in various contests. Ed is active on all bands, and as a mobile always QSYS to 40, 15 and 10 meters after running on the net.

He has been very supportive of the MARAC CH CW Contest, has placed first and second many times, and always manages to run many of the rare counties. On the CH CW net, he goes out of his way when asked, operates with skill and patience, and assists others whenever needed. Ed continues to spend many hours on the net as NCS (and assisting other Net Control Stations), helping mobiles and those at home to enjoy a smooth operation.

In 1987, Ed and his wife, Helen, attended their first MARAC Convention in Denver. Since that time, Ed has missed only a couple national and a few 3M conventions. Always a strong supporter of the Club, Ed has moderated many CW meetings at conventions, is an active member of the MARAC Awards Committee and for many years wrote a CW Column for the RoadRunner beginning in 1993.

Ed has actively supported other Amateur Radio activities as an ARRL VE, membership in the local radio club, North Florida ARES Net, 10-10 International, and spotter during Florida hurricanes. Ed is also an avid bowler; the county hunting connection is no mystery: he run counties on his way to and from bowling tournaments throught the Southeast many times during the year.

Ed also participates regularly as a mobile in the FL and GA QSO Parties, which attract a large county-hunter following and introduces many of them to MARAC and CHN.

It would be difficult to find a more deserving individual for this honor, and I recommend him very highly.

Awards received by KN4Y

Award	Number
Last County Category 1	51
Last County Category 2	1
Last County Category 3	2
Contest	7 Times
Bingo	#169
USA-CW	#35
USA-CW II	#5
2 nd Time	#54
USA Counties	#101
Mobile Cat 4 100 Counties to W3DYA	#1198
Cliff Corne Jr (K9EAB) Memorial 100 Counties	#445

Nomination for SSB County Hunter of the Year W2NWL

Submitted by KZ2P

I would like to propose **Roger Purdy (W2NWL)** as the MARAC SSB County Hunter of the Year. Roger began county hunting in 1995 and has been an active participant in MARAC and on the various nets since that time. He completed all USACA #924 on May 11, 1997, his 2nd Time #261 on April 16, 2000 and “Bingo” #166 on June 25, 1999.

Roger is one of our most proficient mobile operators, he is able to hear and work even the weakest of stations. Thanks to his tireless efforts, none of the New Jersey Counties are on the “Most Needed” list. Roger regularly runs the entire State of New Jersey as well as Delaware and all of the counties to and from the various conventions. He has amassed in excess of 50 last counties.

Before Roger moved to a no antenna community, he logged several hundred hours as net control on both 20 meters and 40 meters. Even now, when conditions permit, Roger still acts as an assistant net control and is always willing to move and assist the mobile operators.

Roger has been and still is a staunch supporter of MARAC. He was instrumental in the revision of the Club’s Constitution and By Laws. When the Club was in desperate need of a new Awards Custodian - Roger was there. He served as Awards Custodian from 1996 until 1999, during this period Roger began converting the awards records from paper to a computer based system. Roger was a valuable asset during the MARAC National Convention in New York. It was due to his tireless efforts that the attendees thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of the convention. Roger has served as the MARAC Vice President from 2000 until 2001.

(Continued on page 7)

Amac Screwdriver Antenna Controller

Raymond Petschonek WG6X

I have recently purchased a new Tundra pickup and installed a new antenna system in the new pickup as noted in a recent RoadRunner article. The only reason I installed a screwdriver antenna was the features of the Amac Screwdriver Antenna Controller. The Amac antenna controller sure makes using a screwdriver a breeze.

After I had the Tarheel screwdriver antenna mounted, the cabling and the coax ran, and the Amac antenna controller and control box installed in the cab of the Tundra all that was left was to calibrate the Amac antenna controller. The calibration of the Amac antenna controller requires up to 19 inputs. First you set the lower limits of the antenna (just above the lower limit stops) and then the upper limits of the antenna just below the upper limit stops). Then the calibration routine requires setting 16 points which are all in the amateur frequencies from 3.5 to 30Mhz and one more if your antenna will tune 6 meters. This calibration is shown on the Amac controller display and of course the best method is to use an antenna analyzer like one of the MFJ models.

I can now select the Icom memories from the Amac controller key pad or input a frequency into the Icom 706 from the Amac controller key pad, and even turn on or off the narrow filters. To select a memory I just input the memory (01-99) into the key pad of the Amac controller which changes the frequency on the Icom 706 and then key the A on the Amac controller key pad and the Amac controller then auto tunes the Tarheel screwdriver antenna for the frequency. You can also input your call into the Amac controller for display on the controller.

You should write the turn count on the Amac controller for these calibrations points and there are lines for this in the instructions for calibrating the antenna. My count ran from 50 (bottom) to 436 (top) turns for my calibration. If you are going to remove power from the Amac controller for some reason you should hit B on the Amac controller to put the antenna to the bottom.

Now I don't have to look down at the Icom 706 to change memory or tune the Icom 706 to a frequency which while driving where before I often had to take my eyes off the road to do this. With the whip off the top of the antenna it is about 8 feet above the ground on 20 meters which makes things

easier for clearing some of those low height limits. I am pretty sure that will clear that low, oneway tunnel to get to Meniffé county in KY.

I have made a couple county hunting trips and so far have recieved good reports on the setup and seems to preform as good as my old setup in the old Chev. pickup. The only minor fault that I can find is that the key pad is not backlighted of night operation, but understand the next upgrade by Amac will have this feature along with others.

There are many ways to have coverage of the ham bands and all have their give and take, but I feel I have found for my use the safest way to operate both SSB and CW for 10-80 meters with good SWR. True, this is not what you would call a cheap antenna setup as cost is in the 500-700 dollar range counting a new screwdriver, antenna mount, and the Amac screwdriver antenna controller.

Found the maps, looked at the needs page, the weather is starting to look decent, and now if I can get a bank loan to full the truck up.....



Amac Controller Installed In My Cab



Tarheel Screwdriver Mounted On My Tundra

2003 NORTH CAROLINA*(unofficial)***QSO PARTY REPORT***by Ron Bailey, AA4S/m*

In 2002 the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club did an excellent job of running the NCQP (their first time as sponsor) and worked hard to promote this year's event on February 23-24. As a result activity seemed to be up and, indeed, 97 of the state's 100 counties were activated. The "Party" runs each year on a Sunday/Monday from 1700 to 0300 UTC.

My performance last year resulted in a distant third place finish in the "In-state, Mobile" category as I activated 13 counties from Watauga through Clay. It seems I had spent too much time driving while not operating, however. I also missed a turn which would have put me in Cherokee County before the end of the contest. This year I was determined not to repeat such embarrassment. The plan was to begin in Cherokee (which counts as an added bonus for participants) and proceed through Clay, Macon, Jackson, etc. finishing up in McDowell.

To leave no term unstoned I intended to run through these counties beforehand in order to find the best possible route and safe, noise-free operating locations. I told K2ZP this would take place on, or about, Monday, 2/17 and he could expect to keep me on the list all that day.

Unfortunately, an inch of sleet fell at my QTH that weekend with mixed precipitation, including snow, in the mountains. Monday was out! Tuesday I had other obligations, but Wednesday, 2/19 found me on the road in my 1993 Chevy S-10 Blazer sporting 3 Hamsticks (15, 20, & 40 meters) and a mag-mount for 10 meters. An 80 meter Hamstick was also on board for evening use.

My 706MKIIG was connected to an Alpha-Delta 4-position antenna switch mounted on a board secured to the passenger's door arm rest and the center console. The RS tape recorder and a Vibroplex key paddle were also mounted on the board. Enough cassette tapes to record 10 hours of operation were on hand as was a clipboard with paper log sheets for use while not in motion.

Things were going well as I ascended from Cleveland into Rutherford County. VE1BES ran me there at 1352 UTC because Jim could not yet hear me and conditions were poor.

I then proceeded north on Rt. 226 into McDowell. Suddenly I noticed the oil pressure gauge fluctuating wildly; then, "What's that funny noise?". I stopped, checked the oil level which was okay; but, not wanting to get stranded, turned around and headed home.

Well, by the time I got to Shelby the engine was knocking like an Avon Lady. I pulled into my dealer where I learned the sad news that a new engine would get rid of the noise (and quite a few dollars as well). I agreed with the diagnosis but told them I was desperate and needed the vehicle back by the weekend because, "I had this contest and ..."; of course they understood! To my amazement, they said "Okay." and gave me a ride home. As promised, I had my vehicle back by Friday night.

Sunday morning of the contest I met Bill Fisher, W4GRW, and his 17-year-old son Josh, KG4EGC, on Rt. 74 west at 7:30 a.m. They had volunteered to run through some of the same counties with me in their vehicle in case Murphy struck again. They would use NC4CQ/m, the club call of the Carolina Contest Group, and would do SSB while I concentrated mostly on CW (80% as it turned out).

We drove the 187 miles to Cherokee county and were ready to go by 11:00 a.m. for the start at noon. The intent was to spend 50 minutes in each county unless the QSO rate dictated either staying longer or not so long. I had a McDonald's hot apple pie 20 minutes before the contest but no other food or drink the entire time. There was a restroom stop in Haywood County and a gas/restroom stop in Yancey.

The choice of starting in Cherokee turned out to be productive as 59 QSOs were logged in 56 minutes. Forty and 20 meters were the best bands throughout the contest. Ten and 15 yielded little and I never could establish a run on 80 even though several strong signals were heard.

We stayed pretty much within the time schedule except when I missed my turn (sound familiar?) on 19/23 north off Rt. 40 in Asheville. I ended up taking Rt. 70 to Rt. 80 north from McDowell into Yancey. Little did I know Rt. 80 went over 6,684 ft.-high Mt. Mitchell! By now it was pitch dark. No other vehicles were on the road which was so winding I was looking at my own tail lights most of the time. There I was, trying to steer with one hand while working 3 and 4 stations a minute at 32 wpm with the other, and wondering,

(continued on page 6)

North Carolina (continued)

“Where will I be when, or if, this road ever ends?”

As luck would have it I must have had a great signal from up there as I ran 166 forty meter CW QSOs in three hours. The road finally came out on Rt. 19E at a gas station which was still open (whew!) So, not much lost as a result of the missed turn except that I ran McDowell, Yancey, Mitchell, and Madison in the reverse order of what I had intended. Plus, I was able to slip into two additional counties (Henderson and Polk) in the last hour on Rt. 26 south on the way home.

The final 10-hour tally was 489 QSOs with 32 counties and 35 out-of-state multipliers worked while activating 13 counties. This represents a 240% improvement over last year’s score and, hopefully, a higher placement in the standings. The round trip totaled 522 miles.

Bill and Josh left me in McDowell about the time I was getting lost! Josh is a senior in high school and had to be home in Vale at a reasonable hour but they had been a great help by giving me several county multipliers I wouldn’t have gotten otherwise. They both thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The weather was perfect and scenery was especially breathtaking along 23/441 with the sun lighting the snowcapped mountains.

I opted not to run any counties on the net during the contest because it was fairly busy. Another factor was that CW QSOs count 3 points, phone QSOs only 2. But since then I have been able to run Rutherford, Polk, Buncombe, and McDowell on the net. Thanks to all who supported my effort by giving me contacts. Hope everyone had fun; I did and can’t wait until next year! Very 73, Ron.

MARAC Board Meeting**Schedule for 2003-04**

April 9, May 14, June 11, July
Saturday Morning at convention.
Aug 13, Sept 10, Oct 8, Nov 12,
Dec 10

2004

Jan 14, Feb 11, Mar 10, Apr 14,
May 12, June 9, July Saturday
morning at convention.

Candidate For S.E. District Director***David Splitt KE3VV***

I was first licensed as a novice ham radio operator in 1959, after a number of years as an avid short wave listener. I learned Morse code from my Dad, who was the radio operator on a B-17 in WWII and radio theory from hams in the Annandale High School Ham Radio Club. I now hold an Extra Class license and I still enjoy CW, especially in DX contests and county hunting.

After practicing law for many years, I retired from private practice in 1997 to do some writing and consulting. Looking for more fun things to do, I joined the ranks of county hunters after a challenge from WA3ZMY (Bill, now an SK) to work all counties with 100 watts and a wire. Sixteen months later, I earned USA-CA #950. I am now about 150 counties away from my 3rd star.

My retirement lasted less than two years, and I am back working full time as Vice President and Senior Corporate Counsel for Affiliated Computer Services (ACS), a large InfoTech outsourcing company.

My favorite part of county hunting is road trips—running an Icom 706 in the “Big Green Dragon” and handling the care and feeding of the County Lion. An active member of MARAC, I have especially enjoyed working on the revision of the constitution and bylaws and the awards committee. For the last three years I have also served as MARAC general counsel. I want to continue to serve the MARAC family as the Southeast District representative on the MARAC Board of Directors.

Candidate For S.C. District Director***Joyce Booth WB9NUL***

Joyce, WB9NUL has been an active participant in County Hunting and MARAC for just under 30 years. Her activity included long stints as net control or assistant on 20, 40 and 75 meters as well as mobile operation from over half the counties in the continental U.S. She is particularly proud of her work as host or hospitality chair at “mini” and “Maxi” conventions throughout the years. Besides an array of certificates and plaques for County Hunting achievements, she has received dozen of merit awards and also holds “County Hunter of the Year” and President’s citation for 1991.

Joyce was a member of the Awards committee for many years and has served as South Central Director of MARAC since 1991. Her goal is to work with the other MARAC board members to blend the interests of County Hunters with the operation of the organization.

DATELINE CW By Ed, KN4Y

The most mobile county hunters are always those who navigate the most.

The 2003 Florida QSO party is in April. I am going over my last year's route to see if I can squeeze in another county or two. I better check, www.qsl.net/fcg, to see what counties will be activated. I hear Gator's four by four barking in the distance. I check the cooler. I have a few Amstel left from the North Carolina QSO party. I notice an unopened giant size bag of potato chips left from the WI QSO party. All is well. Gator pulls up to the railroad tie and cuts his engine. I yell, "Come on in Gator."

Gator comes into the shack with a jar of jalapeno cheese dip. "I knew you had some potato chips and what you up too?" "Thanks Gator, I have a question. Are you going to drive during the Florida QSO party April 26 and 27 and the MARAC county hunters CW contest May 3 and 4? "Is the Pope Catholic?" Gator is grinning from ear to ear as he opens the cooler and gets a couple of Amstel and twists off the tops. I open the potato chips and the jar of dip. "I gather you are." "That be affirmative good buddy." Gator sometimes forgets he is in an amateur radio shack. I give him that look. He hands me an Amstel. You cannot be angry at the hand that hands you booze. It is like the question, why is it rain drops and snow falls. We wash down a few dipped potato chips.

"You going to travel about the same route as last year in Florida?" "Yes, unless you get lost again." "I do not get lost, the GPS malfunctioned." "We do not have a GPS." "See what I mean. How about the county hunters contest route?" Gator asks as he gets two more Amstel from the cooler. I point to the map. "I think we will go up the West side of Georgia Friday night until we get tired. Saturday we will go into Tennessee and run all day. The Sunday we will run Georgia back to Florida. How does that sound?" Gator is all smiles; he likes to drive in Georgia, especially the red clay back roads when it is raining.

Gator gets a copy of last years county hunters CW contest. "You going to beat Jeff, W9MSE or maybe Jerry W0GXQ this year?" "They have an advantage." "What is that?" "They can go longer between pit stops." "You mean you are the age when sitting in a rocker you cannot get it started?" I ignore Gator and wash down a

few more dipped chips. Gator asks, "Is Norm still the contest chief honcho?" "Yes W3DYA sure is. He does a great job and is not afraid to try something new. Remember, amateurs built the ark. Professionals built the Titanic." Gator looks at me and shakes his head. He gets a couple more Amstel.

We enjoy more dipped chips with the Amstel wash down. Gator is looking at the County Line Roadrunner. Gator burps and says; "I see the MARAC convention is July 16 to the 19 in South Bend Indiana this year." "Sure is, that is the home of Notre Dame." "I had a great dame once, bit the mailman." "Gator that is going to be a great convention." Gator,

Looks at his pager. "Gotta hit the road Dude, see you later." Gator is out the door and as he backs out he yells, "Always identify people in your yard before shooting at them" I yell back, "You never hear about a Psychic winning the lottery."

There are going to be a lot of mobiles in the MARAC CW contest. Potato chips sure make a person sleepy. Time for a nap.

CHOTY SSB (Continued)

He currently serves as the Editor of the Road Runner, a position that he has held since 2002. Roger is the recipient of the 2000 Custodian's Award for his outstanding service in that field and a MARAC Category II Merit Award for his dedicated performance as Vice President.

Roger has served as President, Secretary and Trustee for the Jersey Shore Amateur Radio Society. He is currently and has been a ARRL Volunteer Examiner for the last 15+ years. He maintains and operates the 146.955 repeater. He is also the Southern New Jersey Representative and Secretary for the Area Repeater Coordination Council. Roger is always willing to help others in their pursuit to enjoy Amateur Radio.

Roger Purdy (W2NWL) is not only worthy of but would be a valuable addition to the list of MARAC County Hunters of the Year.

Awards received by W2NWL

Award	Number
Last County Category 1	52
Last County Category 2	1
Last County Category 3	2
BINGO	#166
2 nd TIME	#261
Custodian's 7/8/00	
CHOTY - SSB - Runner Up 7/8/00	
Merit Cat 1 Serving as Headquarters Director 12/16/00	
Merit Cat 2 Contribution & Help on New C&BL 7/31/02	
Merit Cat 3 - Serving as Awards Chairman 7/8/00	

Living The legends

35th Annual MARAC Convention

16 July – 19 July 2003

South Bend, Indiana

Holiday Inn University – 1/574-272-6600

Indiana and South Bend are ready to welcome one and all county hunters to the annual convention. Much has been planned for early arrivals and those who just come for the Saturday events.

Area visits not planned but available are: Studebaker National Museum, Chicago sites via the South Shore RR, South Bend Regional Museum of Art, and even Amish country.

The Holiday Inn University is located ½ mile north of I-80/90 EXIT 77, just one mile from the University

Of Notre Dame, three miles north of the College Football Hall of Fame and seven miles from the South Bend Regional Airport.

SPECIAL AMENITIES include 10% discount on meals in the Gipper's Café and Lounge, Indoors and Outdoors pool, game and exercise rooms, free parking and 24-hour airport shuttle service.

ROOM RESERVATIONS 1-574-272-6600

All reservations, as usual, must be guaranteed with a credit card number. If you must cancel, please do so 72 hours before the convention start date.

REGISTRATION IN THE HOTEL LOBBY

Planned Activities

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16. A delicious Polish Buffet will be offered for early arrivals. The South Bend area is noted for their ethnic food and Polish cuisine is one of the most famous and delicious.

We will gather at 5:30 p.m. in the Holidome Reception Area to enjoy the bountiful banquet-style meal consisting of Polish sausage, Baked Chicken, Sweet & Sour Cabbage, Kluski Noodles, Mashed Potatoes, Chef's Vegetable, Tossed Salad w/ Dressings, Rolls, Freshly brewed Coffee & Teas.

The meal will be served at 6:00 p.m. and should you choose to enjoy your meal in the PICNIC AREA outside, please do so at your leisure.

THURSDAY, JULY 17. This will certainly be a day to remember!! It all starts with a tour of the campus of Notre Dame that will be hosted by members of a volunteer group who will show you the best of the best. Of course, for many, "a must see" is the famous Notre Dame Stadium, home of the legendary Fighting Irish football teams and legendary coach Knute Rockne. Other notable sites are the Main Building topped by the "Golden Dome", the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, the Father Hesburgh Library, Joyce Center, and what many affectionately call the "Touchdown Jesus" mural.

After the tour we will travel, by cars, to the College Football Hall of Fame in downtown South Bend. Here, every day is Saturday with action-packed

interactive displays and exhibits. Get into the game in the Practice Field or experience the state-of-the-art 360 degree Stadium Theater. You will discover highlights from each decade with photographs, artifacts, and video kiosks that show how college football has changed. THIS IS TRULY A HANDS-ON tour for football fans or even those who are not quite interested.

Don't miss this outing because after touring the Hall of Fame we will have a dandy TAILGATE PARTY on the "outdoor football field". A great menu is planned, so bring your taste buds along and enjoy.

After the tailgate party you can wander through the Hall of Fame again because our group has sole possession of the building for the evening.

Golf Tournament: Gather to hit the little white ball at a local course.

FRIDAY, JULY 18. First, for those early risers, plan to be educated on KJ4EJ'S Computer Logging Program at 10:00 a.m.

Then, those attendees, who are tired of looking at antennas in the parking lot or chatting in the Holidome Reception Area and would like to watch 250 young people, ages 7 to 21, perform death-defying feats as part of the widely acclaimed CIRUS CITY FESTIVAL, can join us on a trip to Peru, Indiana, former circus winter headquarters. These young people are truly amazing and you will enjoy the Balancing Bike, Teeterboard, Roman Rings, Single, Double, Multiple, and Flying Trapeze acts. Hold your breath as you watch the High Wire, Tight Wire and "Wallendas" High Wire performances. Our day will be busy from 3 p.m. until about midnight. The performance is about 3 hrs in length, so bring your seat cushions!! "Supper" is available in downtown Peru at the Festival Booths.

SATURDAY, JULY 19. As the convention begins to wind down, don't forget the MARAC NATIONAL MEETING, the CW Meeting and W9UCW's Antenna Seminar. At approximately 4:00 p.m. Gene (N4ANV) will want to see your smiling faces for the annual PHOTO SESSION. Don't miss your opportunity for posterity.

To top off the day there will be a cash bar at 6:00 p.m. followed by the BANQUET in the Studebaker Ballroom at 7:00 p.m. You will have chosen either the Chicken Parmesan or Prime Rib to whet your appetite.

Our Master of Ceremonies will be the Great Orange Pumpkin (Mark).

Prizes are not firm, but we will have plenty of radios and especially YL prizes. We can't forget those non-ham partners.

PRIZES

The convention committee will have plenty of radios and YL prizes for attendees. We will be happy to receive as many additional prizes as you are able to donate. Hopefully everyone will be able to take home at least one prize.

DON'T FORGET EARLY REGISTRATION MUST BE POSTMARKED BY APRIL 15, 2003.

COMMITTEE:

Convener- W9GBH-Herb

Treasurer- W9GUY-Don

Asst. Convener- Joan, XYL of W9GBH

Hospitality- WB9NUL-Joyce

E-Mail joycenul@aol.com

Badges- N8BGF-John E-Mail n8bgf@yahoo.com

E-Mail w9gbh@kconline.com

E-Mail w9guy@netusa1.net

Awards Chairman- N8LXQ-Jim

E-Mail jdooley@qtm.net

Website- N9VRZ-Dean

E-Mail n9vrz@hotmail.com

35th Annual MARAC Convention
16 July - 19 July, 2003
South Bend, Indiana
Holiday Inn University - 1/574-272-6600

NAME (First, MI, Last) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ST/PROV _____ POSTAL CODE _____

NAME ON _____

BADGE _____ CALL _____ USACA# _____

REGISTRATION FEE: \$25.00

ADDITIONAL BADGES NEEDED TOTAL # OF ADDITIONAL BADGES @ \$5.00 each=\$

Name Call USACA# Relation

Name Call USACA# Relation

ENTER NUMBER OF PERSONS ATTENDING EVENT TOTAL#

Wednesday July 16

POLISH BUFFET #Adults x \$20.00= \$

Thursday July 17

NOTRE DAME CAMPUS TOUR #Adults x \$ 4.00 = \$

COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME TAILGATE PARTY #Adults x \$25.00 = \$

Friday July 18

CIRCUS CITY FESTIVAL (2 1/2 hr. performance) #Adults x \$12.00= \$

Peru, Indiana **SUPPER AVAILABLE AT FESTIVAL BOOTHS**

Saturday July 19

BANQUET-CHICKEN PARMESAN #Adults x \$18.00= \$

BANQUET-PRIME RIB #Adults x \$20.00= \$

PRIZE TICKETS

MERCHANDISE

Ham Dozen # x \$10.00 = \$

YL Dozen # x \$10.00 = \$

Extra Group Photo # x \$ 5.00= \$

YL Photo # x \$ 6.00= \$

USACA Photo # x \$ 6.00= \$

CW Photo # x \$ 6.00= \$

Total for Tickets = \$

Total for Merchandise \$

FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS: CALL DIRECT AT: 1/574-272-6600

(Room Cost: \$74.95 plus Tax-MENTION MOBILE AMATEUR RADIO)

Mail Registration Forms and Check To:

2003 MARAC CONVENTION

Don Guy

8677 E State Road 218

Walton, IN 46994-9502

1/574-626-2256

Anticipated Date of Arrival at the Convention: / /2003

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$

Please Make Checks Payable To: 2003 MARAC Convention

MARAC 4th Quarter Ballot

Votes accepted from

March 1st – May 31

You are voting for Net Controls who ran the net and
Mobiles that ran in the 4th Quarter

Which are the months of
December, January and February
1 Vote per Quarter – PLEASE

YOU MUST ENTER ONE OF THE BELOW FOR THE BALLOT TO BE VALID

Call Sign _____ OR Election Key Code _____

Annual Award for:	1 ST CHOICE	2 ND CHOICE
Best Net Control (SSB)	_____	_____
Best Net Control (CW)	_____	_____
Best Mobile (SSB)	_____	_____
Best Mobile (CW)	_____	_____
Best Team - (Enter Call1/Call2):	_____ and _____	

DISTRICT DIRECTORS ELECTION

Please **CIRCLE ONLY ONE** from **YOUR DISTRICT**

Multi Selections or Selection of nominee out of your district will not be counted

Southeast Director

_Dave Splitt, KE3VV

South Central Director

Joyce Booth, WB9NUL

COUNTY HUNTER OF THE YEAR

Please Circle one for CW and One for SSB

CW

SSB

Ed Palagyi, KN4Y

Roger Purdy, W2NWL

On line E-Ballot: <http://www.marac.org/elections>

Mail To:

Randy Davis
N8ELQ, Elections Coordinator
1894 Sheick Road
Monroe, MI 48162

The County Line Roadrunner
MARAC Secretary
21140 Golden Pond Road
Long Beach, MS 39560-9012

“A Road Runner Is A Very Fast Bird”

Board of Directors

President: Bill Inkrote, K2NJ, 911 Route 579 Flemington, NJ 08822-5648 908-788-4827 K2NJ@MARAC.org

Vice-President: Bob Voss, N4CD 3133 Charring Cross, Plano TX. 75025-5712, 972-618-5235 N4CD@MARAC.org

Secretary: Norm Ellison, W2LSH, 21140 Golden Pond Road Long Beach, MS 39560-9012, 228-452-1807, W2LSH@MARAC.org

Treasurer: James Grandinetti, KZ2P, PO Box 106 Lakewood, NJ 08701-0106, 732-370-8055, K2JG@MARAC.org

Great Lakes Director: Randy Davis, N8ELQ, 1894 Sheick Road Monroe, MI 48161-9468. 734-587-2454 N8ELQ@MARAC.org

North Central Director: John Robson, WB9STT, 150 W. Wise Rd Schaumburg, IL 60193, 847-891-3906, WB9STT@MARAC.org

Northeast Director: Stanley Heinsma, VE1BES, RR2 Scotsburn NS, BOK 1R0, Canada 902-485-6055 VE1BES@MARAC.org

South Central Director: Joyce Booth, WB9NUL, 27883 McLeiland Rd Harlingen, TX 78552-2108, 956-423-8660 WB9NUL@MARAC.org

Pacific Director: Robert T. Devine, KC6AWX, 407 Alameda Del Prado Novato, CA 94949-6302, 415-883-8980, KC6AWX@MARAC.org

Southeast Director: Percy Ford, KA1JPR, PO Box 1450 Lady Lake, FL 32158-1450, 352-750-0251 KA1JPR@MARAC.org

Appointees

Awards Manager: Gene A. Olig Sr., KD9ZP, PO Box 2295 Fond du Lac, WI 54936-2295, 920-923-0130, KD9ZP@MARAC.org

Newsletter Editor Roger Purdy, W2NWL, 1-B Potomac Lane Whiting, NJ 08759-1813, 732-350-5758, W2NWL@MARAC.org

Sunshine Coordinator: Nancy Nosker, W0NAN, PO Box 98, 14 W. 4th Ave. Grand Marais, MN 55604-0098, 218-387-1546 W0NAN@MARAC.org

Information Coordinator: Dennis Hall, KK7X, 4518 W. Haney Road, Rathdrum, ID 83858, KK7X@MARAC.org

Custodian, Club Call WB0DPD: Bob Dyson, K0AYO, 8943 Overhill Circle, Desoto, KS 66018-9173, 913-583-3212 K0AYO@MARAC.org

Election Coordinator: Randy Davis, N8ELQ, 1894 Sheick Road Monroe, MI 48161-9468. 734-587-2454 N8ELQ@MARAC.org

MARAC General Counsel: David Splitt, KE3VV, 6111 Utah Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20015-2461, 202-362-3355 KE3VV@MARAC.org

MARAC Webmaster: (See Information Coordinator)

Membership

Dues with a printed copy of the Newsletter are \$19.00 per year. Dues with an Electronic copy are \$14.00 per year. Dues with the Newsletter mailed to all continents other than North America 30.00 a year.