



THE COUNTY LINE

ROADRUNNER



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Volume XXXIII

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Number 5

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Bill K2NJ
WOW



I find that I sit in the shack or in the living room or kitchen and watch the developments in Iraq 24/7. I just can't get away from it. Funny, but I just can't stop the correlation between what is going on now with the TV coverage and the book 1984 by George Orwell. They always had war coverage in the book and one day our friends were our friends then they were our foe and our foe was our friend. Maybe I am the only one in the world who sees this, but I can't stop thinking about it. Oh well, guess we will have to just watch it all play out and see where it leads.

I am in the shack today checking QSL cards into my logbook program. Had a NJDXA meeting last night and picked up about 2 inches of cards. TV going in the background and I am entering the data one after another when I stopped cold. There in amongst all the DX cards was a card from VK4BS. I got the card about two weeks after hearing the bad news about Jim passing away and getting this card at this time sure made me stop and take notice. What a nice guy and he will be missed by not only the county hunters but all DX-ers and testers around the world.

Speaking of missing people, this was a harsh spring. Arne K9DCJ and Kenny KC4UG both joined the ranks of Silent Keys. I have know Arne from the mid 60's – every time I turn on the CHN or even before that the CHC/FHC service net he was there. He knew everyone and everything. Arne was the MARAC historian, and finding someone to fill his shoes is going to be a hard task. I have never heard him have a harsh word for anyone. After all these years of being a “Radio Buddy” I had the pleasure of meeting him in Niagara Falls – Sure didn't look like I expected (who does?). Then there is Kennah – what can anyone say that knows him. I still picture him sitting at the conventions with a cigarette in his hand telling story after story.

The question that comes to mind every time I think of Kennah is “Did he really drive a Pink Cadillac?”... And if so, how on earth did he survive the backwater counties of Mississippi and Alabama in it?

On a better note, I would like everyone to thank Harry W6TPC and Larry NA7W for the super job they did on the MARAC database. Ya see, I got talking to Gene and stated something stupid like we seem to be missing home-counties from a bunch of people on the club database. I can get the stuff on the guys from New Jersey and give it to you (Gene) to update... He said he was too busy and gave me the password so I could go in and update the stuff, which I did. That took a day or two and all was fine. He said I should look at a few other states and before I knew it I was whitewashing a fence (updating the entire country) I finished New England ... It soon became evident that I would never be able to do it and asked for help. Well, Harry and Larry jumped in and looked up the home-counties and gave me the data for the country. I now only had to update the stuff...

Larry phoned me asking if he could help do that also – so with the hook set in his upper jaw I started to reel him in... I gave the password to him and off he went – I now could concentrate on the three QSL bureau jobs and also was testing some software and could actually have time to sleep. Larry went off and did all the country and just let me know this week he finished... What a guy, I bet he is going blind after all that typing... So when you hear them on the net, let them know that their work was appreciated. While your at it, look on the database to verify that all of your data is correct... if not let NORM know, he misses hearing from you...hi

The temperature is going up into the 60's today and the grass is turning green... Spring is just starting to show itself – time to think about the summer mobile trips. We hope to get off as soon as school lets out and head North to Maine, and VE9. Gotta get our fill of lobstah along with visiting old friends north of the boarder. Then head home and park the RV, hop in the car and head for South Bend....

(Continued on Page 2)

(President Continued from page 1)

Going north will be just Gail and Me along with a friend (widow of one of my dearest friends K3UEI) and then when we go west we drop her off and pick up our son KC2JPM for the convention. This is strange for us, because we always have a RV full of kids and dogs... Now we can leave our kids home (one is married, one is 21 and can watch over our 16 year old son). Sorry to say, we must come straight home after the convention (no visiting the UP of Michigan as I hoped) because Gail has to teach a class this summer and it starts the week after the convention... So there wont be as much mobile operation as I like, but then with the cost of gas that may be for the best.

I am still getting calls – Emails and letters about the article on Mobile Identification... Lets keep them on their toes. If there is a clown out there that doesn't ID often enough, work him and tell him so – maybe enough bugging the ones that don't ID will get them all doing it. Nuf for that?

That is all I have this month. I just got a new PC and man what a job moving files and programs from the old laptop into this one – three days now and still have some stuff hanging out that may have to be done the hard way (disc to disc)...

73'

Bill Inkrote, K2NJ

MARAC President

MARAC Board Meeting
Schedule for 2003-04

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.

Input, Input, Input

“As you can see, there could have been plenty of room for your Items For Sale, Insights on County Hunting, a new Antenna you've invented
BUT YOU DIDN'T SEND IT TO ME?????

Membership

It has come to our attention that the following new members were not announced in the Road Runner. Please welcome them and add their names to your database

MARAC #	Call	Name
R-3010	KG4NNK	Rick D. Schad
R-3011	N3WAV	Robert Livrone
R-3012	N3XH	M. Anthony Kapolka III
R-3013	N3RM	Randy Miller
R-3024	K4YL	Stephen M. Gross
R-3015	W4ETM	Edward T. McGinley
R-3016	KY1T	Byron (Luck) Hurder
R-1317	WV9N	Randy D. Lemmel
R-1318	K0QH	John H. Taylor Jr.
R-3019	N9GUN	Thomas E. O'Boyle
R-3020	KC0HFB	Tracey L. Bradshaw

New Members For April

Please welcome them and add them to your database

Marac #	Call	Name	Address	Cnty	E Mail
R-3080	N9JF	James L Funk	2742 N. 230 Ave	Liberty, IL	62347 Adams jfunk@adams.net
R-3081	AK9L	Robert A Jackson	7s270 Charles St	Naperville, IL	60540 Du Page bobandannsbcbglobal.net
R-3082	WD8LQB	Steve E Antoine	11506 Pippin Road	Cincinnati, OH	45231 Hamilton seantoin@aol.com
R-3083	KB2KBC	Frank C Moore	102 Vernon St	Bordentown, N.J.	08505 Burlington cqdekb2kbc@aol.com

Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club
Treasurer's Report
April 30, 2003

Funds Balance 3/31/03	\$28,211.56
Income:	
Awards	\$ 585.00
Dues	\$ 697.00
Interest	<u> \$5.47</u>
	\$1,287.47
Expenses:	
Gene Olig – expenses	\$112.06
Stafford Engraving - awards	\$39.00
Print Rite, Inc – newsletter	<u> \$555.86</u>
	\$706.92
	<u> \$580.55</u>
Account Balances	\$28,792.11
Money Market Account	\$25,743.45
Checking Account	<u> \$3,048.66</u>
	\$28,792.11

MARAC NATIONAL CONVENTION SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

July 16-19, 2003

PRIZES GALORE

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE-APRIL 15



*Early bird registration prize: Icom IC-706 MKIIG
Ultra compact HF/6 meter/2 meter/440MHz transceiver*



*Main Prizes: Kenwood TS-570D(G) - HF Tranceiver,
Covers 160-10M*

*Icom IC-706 MKIIG - Ultra Compact HF/6 meter/2
meter/440 MHz transceiver*

*Yaesu FT-100D - Ultra-Compact HF/50/144/430 MHz
Transceiver*



*Minor Prizes: The Committee has several but we
also encourage every participant to bring a small prize
donation to the banquet so everyone goes home with
a prize.*

**DONATED PRIZES MAY BE SHIPPED TO
W9GBH OR W9GUY.
THEY MAY ALSO BE BROUGHT DIRECTLY TO
THE CONVENTION.
THANKS, IN ADVANCE, FOR YOUR DONATIONS!!**

“To Key or Not To Key – That is the Question”

By KD9ZP

If you read this title, you might smile and think to yourself:

“He’s an Engineer and can’t spell”

Actually, on a scale of **1 to 10**, my spelling is a **3.141592654**.

Several years ago, when **Randy (N8ELQ)** and I discussed some security for the **MARAC Election Page**:

www.marac.org/elections,

we decided on using a randomly generated **4 digit Key or Password**. The thought process was that I could quickly regenerate the **Keys** should it be necessary because **Randy** left his position (I did this twice, once when **Randy** ran for **District Director** and again when he returned to The **Election Coordinator** position) or possibly could be changed every **Election** to provide additional security in the voting process.

Since, if you are like me, you are ‘up to your ears’ in passwords and trying to remember them becomes a dreaded task. Thus, to eliminate the need to remember ‘another password’, we decided on the **4 digit Key** system.

To obtain your key, simply go to the above URL, put in your call and press the:

I forgot my Election Key, Please Email me my key

Button. You will be informed of one of the following in the next screen:

1. Your Election Key Has Been Emailed to you. It may take up to an hour to get your **Key** in an email message.

2. Your Membership Has Expired On ‘mm/dd/yy’
You need to renew with the **MARAC Secretary – W2LSH**. All membership expiration dates are the last day of the month.

3. You are not a MARAC Member:To become a member, see item **2** above.

4. You do not have an Email address in our database: Contact either **W2LSH** or myself (**KD9ZP**) to have your email address added.

5. Your call xx9xxx is not in our database: Maybe you changed your call and didn’t inform either **W2LSH** or myself (**KD9ZP**) to have the database updated.

After about two years of operation, **KK7X (MARAC Web Master)** decided to convert to the same **Web Page security** for the **MARAC Members Only Web Page** accessed from: www.marac.org

Now, you can access either the **Elections Page** or the **MARAC Members Only Web Page** using the same system – i.e. **MARAC Key**.

Also, there is no need to remember your key, just request it again if you forget it!!

KD9ZP

Awards Manager

(And Part Time Web Page Designer)

Major Awards Issued For The Month Of April

KD9ZP - Awards Manager

Award	Number
LC-1	168
LC-2	14
LC-3	7
All Others	16

Call	Date	Award	Number
WB8RJW	4/6/03	BINGO	231
W9MSE	4/17/03	BINGO	232
W0GXQ	4/21/03	Last County Count 100	178
WB4FFV	4/29/03	Last County Count 350	27
K7IOO	4/29/03	Last County Count 500	17
AI5P	4/21/03	Last County Count 525	15
KC1NA	4/21/03	Last County Count 525	16
N8STF	4/22/03	Last County Count 575	10
N6MJ	4/21/03	Last County Count 75	197
AA9KH	4/7/03	USA-CW	66
KB2ZL	4/13/03	Worked all Counties - 2nd Time	315
K8MDU	4/23/03	Worked all Counties - 2nd Time	316
W1NHJ	4/5/03	Worked all Counties - 3rd Time	168
W0RRY	4/15/03	Worked all Counties - 3rd Time	169
K8MDU	4/29/03	5 Band #50 – 20M #38	3077
W0RRY	4/29/03	5 Band #51 – 20M #39	3077

**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 ½ 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 = \$ _____

Total for Tickets = \$ _____

Extra Group Photo # _____ x \$ 5.00= \$ _____

YL Photo # _____ x \$ 6.00= \$ _____

USACA Photo # _____ x \$ 6.00= \$ _____

CW Photo # _____ x \$ 6.00= \$ _____

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

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

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

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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.