



THE COUNTY LINE

ROADRUNNER

Published Monthly by the Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club, Inc.



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DATELINE CW

By Ed, KN4Y

How glorious it is; and also how painful; to be a CW County Hunter.

Time flies when you are working counties on CW, I am listening and working mobiles on the 30-meter CW net and the 20-meter CW net. It is important the mobiles run on 20-meters so the DX stations can work the counties, but lately the DX window is stuck shut. I hear the barking engine as Gator down shifts coming off the hard road. Good thing I restocked the cooler. I wait until the final backfire then yell, "Come in Gator the doors unlocked." Gator comes in carrying a bag of pretzels and jalapeno cheese dip. "Though you might be hungry after that DX contest and the Minnesota QSO party last month." I go get a couple cool ones to complement the dip.

Gator asks, "How you do on the Minnesota QSO party Dude?" "Did only CW and worked 60 counties." "That is great, how about the CW DX contest?" "Made 355 contacts and worked 152 DXCC countries." I go to the desk and get the scissors to open the bag of pretzels. I come back and Gator is reading something on the computer.

"I read that the MARAC convention is in Virginia. Be sure to bring me a ham." "Okay Gator, I will bring you Ray, WG6X?" Gator gives me that look he had when he heard the Governor's Mansion in Little Rock burned down and took out the entire trailer park. I hand him a cool one before he has a heart attack. "I mean one of the smoked 15-pounders. Are you going to the convention?" "Thinking about going, not sure yet, why?" "I see there are some tours planned. You can ride Virginia Dare, that sounds like fun." I look at the computer. "That is the name of a boat, dummy." Gator is laughing, "had you going Dude." I go get two more cool ones. CW makes a person thirsty.

"I read that you will see railroad artifacts, what be that Dude?" "Years ago they had steam engines that pulled railroad cars and delivered stuff all over the country. There will probably one of those engines on display." "I saw one of those engines on the wild west movie. That sounds interesting." "Maybe to you Gator, but I worked for the New York Central Railroad and saw it all in action. But it always good to reminisce." "You actually saw a steam engine running?" "Yep; and you could always tell when a train had gone by." "How that be Dude?" "You would see its tracks." There is a pause; Gator has that look when he heard that New Jersey has a new three million dollar State lottery. The winner gets three dollars a year for a million years. I am laughing hysterically.

Gator ignores my humor and opens the bag of pretzels and jar of cheese dip. We swig and dip with no thought of future repercussions. Gator looks at the computer again, "I see they will have a hospitality room. Will Al be there?" "That is the reason it is called a hospitality room you catty-wampus." Gator smiles, "Remind me to take you snipe hunting." We have a good laugh and continue to swig and dip. Gator continues to look at the computer, "Wow Dude, you can run counties on the Blue Ridge Parkway." "That sounds like a great adventure if you have good brakes, what are the dates?" "It starts July 20 and ends after the banquet on July 23. You may not want to go Dude, there is no mention of a CW meeting." "There is always a CW meeting Gator, something important has to be accomplished at a convention." "Had me worried Dude, was going to call Al and get him to lean on the CW committee." "Better call Jerry, he is a younger leaner." We have a good laugh and dip and swig a few more times. "Gator, from what web site are you reading the convention information?" "It be www.countyhunter.com."

I hear Gators pager buzz, "Looks like I have to leave Dude, see you later. As Gator drives off he yells," If someone says a penny for your thoughts and you put in your two cents. What happens to the other penny?" I do not try to yell above the barking engine so I give him thumbs up, I think it was my thumb.

I go back into the shack, got to get ready for the Oklahoma, Virginia, Wisconsin QSO parties and the ten-ten mobile contest. I lean back in my recliner and do a Norm.

2005 (39TH) MARAC COUNTY HUNTERS CW CONTEST

0000Z Saturday May 7 to 2400Z Sunday May 8, 2005

The Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club is pleased to sponsor the 38th Annual County hunters CW Contest. Mobile and Fixed operation from every county in the U.S. is encouraged.

RULES: Fixed Stations may be worked only once on each band. U.S. Mobiles (identified by signing /M) may be worked each time they change county or band. A Fixed Station working a Mobile on a county line may count the Mobile as only ONE QSO (15pts) and may count each county (two maximum) as a separate multiplier. Only stations with one operator (one transmitter at a time) are eligible for awards.

Note: PORTABLE CATEGORY has been eliminated due to lack of participation.

Clarifications:

- Please use the state/county abbreviation list available at URL: <http://www.bnk.com/W0QE/-CountyAbbrev-V3-4col.pdf> (or .doc). Contest contacts between operators in the same vehicle or in shadowing vehicles are invalid. Does not apply to casual contacts between passing mobiles.

- There are no restrictions against spotting mobiles.

- To be considered as "Mobile" you must put out a least 2 counties.

EXCHANGE: Signal report, state and county-abbrev for U. S. stations. Signal report, "DX" for all other stations (including Canada & Mexico).

SCORING: For a valid contact, one station must be in a U.S. County. One point for Fixed stations; 15 points for U.S. Mobiles; 5 points for DX. Controlled Net contacts are invalid for contest purposes. **FINAL SCORE = TOTAL QSO POINTS times TOTAL NUMBER OF U.S. COUNTIES WORKED.**

Mobiles changing states during the contest should calculate their scores for each state and a total score. Total Overall Score must not count a county as a multiplier more than once regardless of the mobile's county or band.

FREQUENCIES: CW: 3.575, 7.050, 14.050, 21.050, 28.050. Fixed Stations should operate above the suggested frequencies; mobiles, below.

AWARDS: MARAC Contest Certificates:

First Place Fixed in each State, Canadian Province, and Country.

First Place Mobile in each State.

MARAC Contest Plaques:

1st and 2nd place U.S. Mobile, 1st and 2nd place U.S. Fixed station, 1st place Canadian Station if enough entries warrant an award, and 1st place DX station. For contest Award purposes, DX is any country other than the U.S. and Canada.

Send completed logs and summary sheet by June 10, 2005, to:

1st choice: AA8R@AOL.COM

2nd choice: Randy Hatt AA8R;

7878 W. County Line Rd

Howard City, Mich. 49239

(text, WORD .DOC, Cabrillo, EXCEL files OK).

Contest package available on request (no SASE required).

More info available at websites countyhunter.com & marac.org.

**Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club (MARAC)
37th Annual National Convention 2005
Roanoke, Virginia**

- WHEN:** July 21, 22 and 23, 2005
- WHERE:** Wyndham Hotel – Roanoke Airport
2801 Hershberger Road, NW, Roanoke, Virginia
Phone: 540-563-9300 – Reservations 800-996-3426
- ROOM RATES:** \$69.00 Single/\$69.00 Double – plus 12% tax –
Reservations 800-996-3426 “Amateur Radio 2005 Convention”
- RESERVATIONS:** Call 540-563-9300 or 800-996-3426 and mention “Amateur Radio 2005 Convention”
to get the rate of \$69.00 per night 21-24 July 05.
- DIRECTIONS:** I-581 at Airport exit – exit 3 west on to Hershberger Road
- TOURS AND
ACTIVITIES:** Thursday – Bus will pick-up at 8:00 a.m. from Hotel and return to Hotel.
Tours of Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello in Charlottesville. and
The National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, Virginia. All day tour,
a stop will be made for Lunch. Limited to 55 seats, register early.
Friday – Bus will pick-up at 9:00 a.m. from Hotel and return to
Hotel. Tours of O’Winston Link Museum and Virginia Museum
of Transportation. Downtown Market area stop for Lunch.
Friday (dinner cruise 7:00 p.m. - 50 Seats) Own transportation – Smith Mountain
Lake, (approx 45 minutes from Roanoke area)
Dinner Cruise on the Virginia Dare and tour of Lake area.
- CONVENTION
ACTIVITIES:** Hospitality room – Meetings and Forums (Saturday) –Saturday
Night Banquet Dinner – Drawing for Prizes at Banquet – Awards
- REGISTRATION:** Forward Registration form with total fees and cost to:
- MARAC 2005 Annual Convention
C/O Jerry Haislip – K1SO
P. O. Box 13741
Roanoke, Virginia 24036-3741
Home phone number: 540-774-3454***
- WEBSITE:** For more information about Tours and locations check Website -
www.MARAC05Covn.com

MARAC 3RD Quarter Ballot
Votes accepted thru
March 31st.

You are voting for Net Controls who ran the net and Mobiles that ran in the
3rd Quarter
Which are the months of
Jan, Feb and March
1 Vote per Quarter – PLEASE

Call Sign* _____ Election Key* _____

Please put EITHER your call sign or Election Key Code above.

| Annual Award For: | 1st Choice | 2nd Choice |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Best Net Control - SSB: | _____ | _____ |
| Best Net Control - CW: | _____ | _____ |
| Best Mobile - SSB: | _____ | _____ |
| Best Mobile - CW: | _____ | _____ |
| Best Team(Enter Call1/Call2): | _____ | _____ |

Mail To: Chuck Theisen, K9IA, Elections Coordinator
N5563 County Road K.
Fond Du lac Mi, 54935

Please Welcome Our New Members And Add Them To Your Data Base

| Marac No. | Call | Full Name | Address | City and State | Home County | Phone Number |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| R-3170 | WN4D | Donald N Wilson | 117 Beech Ave | Camden, TN 38320 | Benton | 1-731-584-096 |
| dnwilson@charter.net | | | | | | |
| R-3171 | N2MH | Mark J Herson | 356 Stiles CT | West Orange, NJ | Essex | 1-973-736-485 |
| mherson@intac.com 07052-4199 | | | | | | |
| R-3172 | KB6TA | Jim F Walden | 780 S. Vista Ave. | Willcox, AZ 85643 | Cochise | 1-520-384-290 |
| jlwalden@vtc.net | | | | | | |
| R-3173 | AF5Q | Ronald M Grossman | 1308 SW Washington | Lawton, OK 73501 | Comanche | 1-580-355-168 |
| af5q@yahoo.com | | | | | | |
| R-3174 | N2LYV | Dominick Mangano | 42 Sleepy Hollow Lane | Belle Mead, NJ 08502 | Somerset | 1-908-359-484 |
| n2lyv@arrl.net | | | | | | |
| R-3175 | K4YT | Karl J Renz | 10725 Spruce Street | Fairfax, VA 22030 | Fairfax | 1-703-591-933 |
| k4yt@hotmail.com | | | | | | |

Correction To the February Membership List

W4BD (Robert E. Harvey) Should be W4BQD KB1HX (Karolyn Koprowski) Should be KB1HXR
Thanks to Matt W0NAC for the corrections

Announcement from your Election Coordinator

March 1st, 2005

We are now 60 days into our 90 day nomination process. Remember, Nominations close on April 1st. Here is a report of activities.

As of this date candidates for vacant offices are as follows:

- President
 - WB9NUL
 - N8ELQ
- Vice President
 - W5UGD
 - W9OP
- South Central District Director
 - WOMU
- North Central District Director
 - WB9STT
- Great Lakes District Director
 - K8GPC

Thanks to all those who are willing to serve. We now have candidates for all vacant positions. It's important to have the opportunity to choose. As you can see, our goal has been partially achieved. We need additional candidates for the vacant directors' positions.

Remember, to be a candidate for one of these positions you must live in the district. If you would like to serve, now is the time. Please contact me k9ia@arri.net at your earliest convenience.

73, K9IA
Charles Theisen
Election Coordinator
k9ia@arri.net
(920) 921-1605
N5563 County Road K
Fond du Lac WI 54935

The County Hunter Of The Year

Charles Theisen Election Coordinator

The County Hunter of the year awards are presented at the national convention each year, and this year is no exception. This is another one of those club member participation projects. The club needs your input. For starters, go to the club website, <http://marac.org/> and look in "Information" and the drop down menu, "awards Information" and the second drop down menu "Awards and Fees". You will find everything you ever wanted to know about "The County Hunter of the Year Awards" on page 15 of this very well presented information sheet. If computers aren't your bag, check with your District Director for more information on this award and the procedures to follow. Now that our education is complete, let us proceed. We need to have candidates by April 1 to meet time constraints.

Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club

Treasurer's Report

February 28, 2005

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Funds Balance | 1/31/05 | | \$27,676.76 |
| Income: | | | |
| Awards | | \$ 766.85 | |
| Dues | | \$768.00 | |
| Interest | | <u>\$5.28</u> | |
| | | | \$1,540.13 |
| Expenses: | | | |
| Gene Olig – expenses | | \$298.76 | |
| Stafford Engraving - Awards | | \$75.00 | |
| Robert Allen - Convention | | \$300.00 | |
| Print-Right, Inc – newsletter | | <u>\$491.69</u> | |
| | | | \$1,165.45 |
| | | | <u>\$374.68</u> |
| Account Balances: | | | \$28,051.44 |
| Money Market Account | | \$24,864.30 | |
| Checking Account | | <u>\$3,187.14</u> | |
| | | | \$28,051.44 |

Note:

The following monies are not included in the above:

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Awards Chairman's Funds | \$1,200.00 |
| 2004 Convention Chairman's Funds | \$2,500.00 |

Database Printouts Available KD9ZP Awards Manager

The printout consists of:

- **Award Rules**
- **MARAC Members** – Past and Present listed by Call Area. This printout has Names, Addresses, Email Address, and number of stars including BINGO
- **Stars** – List of all Calls having at least one Star with their number. List sorted by Call.
- **List of Stars by Number** – Complete list of all Stars in numerical order.

\$5 for MARAC Members – This includes \$3.85 for Priority Mail shipping \$10 for non Members
Make check out to **MARAC Awards** and mail to :
MARAC Awards P.O Box 2295 Fond du Lac, WI 54936-2295

Notice
W2LSH
Norm Ellison
Has
“REVERTED”
To His
Original Call
W2IBB

Please make the necessary changes to your database.

Major Awards Issued For The Month Of February

KD9ZP - Awards Manager

| Award | Number |
|-------------------|------------|
| LC-1 | 205 |
| LC-2 | 5 |
| LC-3 | 4 |
| All Others | 28 |

Other Awards

| Call | Date | Award | Number | Call | Date | Award | Number |
|-----------------|-----------|--------------------------------|---------|------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|---------|
| N8KIE | 2/8/2005 | BINGO | 263 | WB9YCO | 2/5/2005 | BINGO II | 33 |
| N8KIE | 2/28/2005 | Last County Count | 125 140 | AB4YZ | 2/28/2005 | Last County Count | 150 122 |
| WG6X | 2/28/2005 | Last County Count | 450 24 | WA7SLD | 2/28/2005 | Last County Count | 75 212 |
| N4RS | 2/2/2005 | USA-CW II | 12 | AA0IP | 2/4/2005 | USA-CW II | 13 |
| W0GXQ | 1/29/2005 | Worked all Counties - 2nd Time | 344 | N4RS | 2/2/2005 | Worked all Counties - 2nd Time | 345 |
| WG6X | 2/7/2005 | Worked all Counties - 2nd Time | 346 | WQ7A | 2/14/2005 | Worked all Counties - 2nd Time | 347 |
| AB4YZ | 2/21/2005 | Worked all Counties - 2nd Time | 348 | K8CW | 2/2/2005 | Worked all Counties - 6thTime | 2110 |
| W0GXQ 2/28/2005 | | | | YL Mobile 201 Counties | | | |

USA-CA

Issued By K1BV

| Call | Award Date | Certificate Number |
|-------|------------|--------------------|
| G3SPU | 2/17/2005 | 1113 |

March Birthdays

| | | | |
|--------|----------|--------|----------|
| N5MIV | March 1 | W3ZUH | March 2 |
| KL7D | March 3 | N4RS | March 3 |
| K9FDL | March 10 | KS8W | March 10 |
| AA4VN | March 14 | N7ID | March 17 |
| K7VAY | March 17 | KN4XP | March 19 |
| KM4W | March 22 | N3TA | March 22 |
| K0QD | March 24 | WA2DWP | March 24 |
| WA0QFY | March 26 | WA4RNN | March 27 |
| K9EDE | March 27 | NR2H | March 30 |
| WA7SLD | March 31 | | |

If your birthday is not in the database at:

www.marac.org/database

Send it to: kd9zp@marac.org

MARAC Board Meeting Schedule for 2005

Apr 13,
May 11, June 8,
July At The Convention

Deadline For The APRIL RoadRunner Is MARCH 25th

KwikLog 2005

Questions about KwikLog 2005? Ask Don McMinds K7DM at K7DM@casco.net.
Questions on the various versions of the original Kwiklog should be directed to KK7X.

The County Line Roadrunner
MARAC Secretary
117 Hayden Ave.
Pass Christian Ms. 39871

“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: Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, 21175 FM2556, Santa Rosa, TX 78593 1-956-636-9161 WB9NUL@MARAC.org

Secretary: Norm Ellison, W2IBB, 117 Hayden Ave. Pass Christian MS. 39571, 228-452-1807, W2LSH@MARAC.org

Treasurer: James Grandinetti, KZ2P, P.O. Box 770777, Naples, FL 34107-0777 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: Donald L. Kimble, AE3Z, 242 Leisure LN Horseheads NY, 14845-4005 USA 1-607-795-4342, AE3Z@MARAC.org

South Central Director: Mike Fatchett, W0MU, PO Box 3500, Parker, Co. 08134 1-303-790-4611

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

Southeast Director: David Splitt, KE3VV, 6111 Utah Ave, N.W. Washington, DC 20015-2005, 202-362-3355 KE3VV@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, K9DCJ: Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, 21175 FM2556, Santa Rosa, TX 78593 1-956-636-9161 WB9NUL@MARAC.org

Election Coordinator: Chuck Theisen, K9IA, N 5563 County Road K, Fond Du Luc, WI 54935 920-927-1605 K9IA@MARAC.org

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

MARAC Historian: Eldon “Sonny” Sanders, W5DVW 4161 Old Barker Ranch Rd. College Station, Tx 77845 W5VDW@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.