



# ***THE COUNTY LINE*** ***ROADRUNNER***

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



**Volume XXXVI**

**January 2006**

**Number I**

## **From My Point of View**

Joyce, WB9NUL

The holidays are behind us and the New Year looms ahead. My wish for the year 2006 is to continue the spirit of hope, love and peace that has been felt for the last six weeks. And what a great time the holidays were for Barry & me....family and friends celebrating with us the joy of the season. In one month we changed the sheets in the guest bedroom five times!

It was also a time to reflect on the friends and family who are far away or who are no longer with us. We as county hunters recently lost two more of our members, Walt, K4ELK and Hugh, K8GPC.

Barry & I are looking forward to seeing many of you in February at the South Central Mini in Weslaco, Texas. Happy New Year!

73's Joyce, WB9NUL

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### **Editor's Notes:**

Thank you for your patience (late RR) while I visited my grandkids.

I have a request for an article on how-to-log-at-60+mph. That may not make a whole article, but I could assemble a whole bunch of comments, suggestions, experiences, etc. into an anthology which might be good. Tell me what's good, bad and ugly and let's see where it goes.

Next RR deadline is 1/25/06.

**Dateline CW**

By Ed, KN4Y

Eat no onions nor garlic, if you are to run a sweet county line.

The ARRL ten-meter contest was a humdinger. I got spotted on ten meters CW and many county hunters took time to locate and work me. The rumor is not true that CW county hunters crazy glue their VFO on 10.114 MHz. I know Gator is on the way, I hear the echo of his four-by-four vibrating off the barn, and the black-eyed peas with ham hocks are about done. We sure don't want any bad luck this year. I hear the rat-a-tat tat on the radio shack door.

"Come in Gator, Happy New Year, the black-eyed peas with ham hocks are done" "Happy New Year, Dude, sure don't want any bad luck, I brought a twelve pack of lager to compliment the ham hocks." "Put them in the cooler and have a seat." Gator puts the 807's into the cooler and pops the top on two of them for quality control purposes. He hands me an 807 as he looks at the computer, "What is this on the county hunters forum, something about mobile CW net time restraints?" "Yes, last week several mobiles showed up on the CW net at the same time and a discussion ensued regarding run time limits." The black-eyed peas with ham hocks are done and I fill two bowls and get clean forks. The aroma is delightful and I almost forgot the cornbread. I get the cornbread out of the microwave and hand the pan to Gator. He slices the cornbread and says, "You know, Dude, every time several mobiles check in at the same time on the net we have this discussion. I remember when we wished we had a pile up on the CW net." "Eat your ham hocks before they get cold; but you are correct." I hate to admit Gator is right, I hope it went over his head. We raise our 807's and make a toast; "this year may the price of gas drop below two bucks." We giggle and nothing is heard except the chomping of black-eyed peas with ham hocks.

Gator gets two more 807's, "What the netters going to do?" "Really nothing, as always the first mobile that checks in (QRV) on the net the NC will assign the mobile as number one on the net frequency. Any other mobiles can QSY or QRX. You know what that means?" "Sure do, the second mobile can move up or down the frequency (QSY) and run their county, or wait (QRX) on net frequency until the number one mobile is finished with their run. After the run the number two mobile becomes number one and runs on net frequency." Gator asks, "What if a third mobile also checks in?"

"The third mobile will be assigned number three. The number three mobile will become number two mobile when number one mobile is finished running and number two mobile becomes number one. But usually the mobile in the number three spot will QSY to keep from running out of the county."

"When several mobiles are running counties some of the county hunters think a mobile should have a set amount of net time to complete their run, maybe ten or twenty minutes." "What happens when the time expires?" "The mobile stops running the county or QSY." "That sounds cruel, who keeps track of the time?" "That is one of the details that has to worked out. It has to be someone all the mobiles can hear." "How about Al, he has his own atomic clock." "He is on central time." "Oh yes, I forgot."

We each get another bowl of black-eyed peas with ham hocks; we want all the good luck we can get for this year. We look at the cooler and nod our heads in agreement; another 807 would not be out of order. I am glad there is no consumption time limit. I turn on the rig to 10.114 MHz and we listen to a station calling CQ up the band a bit. A net frequency is like a magnet. Gator cuts a couple more slices of cornbread. Suddenly we hear a mobile station calling on the net frequency, we listen in between bites. "Gator, that is that big rig driver calling QRV but no one is coming back to him. I guess there is no net control." "I heard that Dude before and he sends code too fast for me to get solid copy." There is no net control so the operator starts running the county.

"Say Dude, who is timing this run?" "No one, there is no pile up so he can take all the time he needs." "That seems like discrimination." "It seems like you are against a run time limit." "Sure do, the second mobile station knows the first mobile station is on net frequency so the second mobile station automatically moves (QSY) and if still in the county he can run on net frequency when the first mobile station is finished. The third mobile station knows the net frequency will be busy for a while and moves (QSY) to another frequency to run. No time limit is necessary." "But what if the stations cannot hear each other." "They get their TS card validated." "GATOR!"

We are laughing hilariously and relax to listen to the big rig station run the county. I need the county but I am facing the wrong way. Gator hands me a 807, "That Dude is running the county, what happens if another mobile is ready to run their county?" "Simple, the new mobile puts out his call. The mobile running acknowledges with a signal report. The new mobile, before giving his RST, gives his location and that he moving up or down the frequency, then gives his RST." "Why before the RST?" "When the mobile running hears a return RST he may think the exchange is finished and start working other stations before the new mobile can announce his intentions." "Always?" "No, sometimes." "Who is keeping track of time when there is no net control?" "That has to worked out." "How about Jerry?" "It might be snowing." "Right."

I stack the empty bowls to take to the dishwasher. Gator asks, "What do you think is the solution to the multiple mobiles dilemma." "I think nothing, when this occurs on the net again it will be discussed on the forum and the recycle will be

Convention Chairman's Funds - 2006	\$2,500.00
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**Election Notice**

Charles, K9IA

**I**n accordance with the bylaws, nominations are declared open for the MARAC 2006 election.

This year we will elect a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, South Central District Director and a Southeast District Director. The terms for the offices of President, VP, Treasurer and SEC) are for two years. These terms will run from July 2006 to July 2008. The directors are elected for three year terms, which will run from July 2006 until July 2009.

In addition, we will need a candidate to complete the term of the Great Lakes Director due to the death of our good friend Hugh (K8GPC), who began serving in that capacity in July of 2005. The new Great Lakes Director will serve until July 2008.

Nominations will be accepted from Jan 1, 2006 until April 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2006.

Any MARAC member may nominate themselves, or any other MARAC member. The nominee must be a member in good standing. In addition, nominees for district positions must reside in the district that they will represent. The Awards Chairman database is the tool used to determine residency. Only nominate with the approval of the prospective nominee.

The candidates on the ballot for the 2006 election will be announced in the May issue of the Roadrunner and on the MARAC web site. Ballots will be printed in the May and June issues of the Roadrunner and will be available on the MARAC web site. The deadline for receipt of ballots on-line or by mail is midnight on July 1, 2006.

To nominate or for further information contact the Elections Coordinator at [k9ia@arrl.net](mailto:k9ia@arrl.net), phone (352) 430- 1040, or mail to: Charles Theisen K9IA  
Elections Coordinator  
8075 SE 174<sup>th</sup> Belhaven Loop  
The Villages, FL 32162

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

Marac No.	Call	Full Name	Address	City and State	Home Cty	Phone Number
R-3191	WA7YUL	Robert C Ower	3334 Orchid Way	Prescott, AZ 86305	Yavapai	1-000-000-0000
		<a href="mailto:wa7y@arrl.net">wa7y@arrl.net</a>				
R-3192	KI7GV	William M Gentry	PO Box 485	Pea Ridge, AR 72751	Benton	1-000-000-0000
		<a href="mailto:ki7gv@centurytel.net">ki7gv@centurytel.net</a>				

Clip or copy and mail this ballot or use the handy electronic voting system at <http://marac.org/elections>

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### MARAC 2nd. Quarter Ballot

*Votes Accepted through*

*January 31, 2006*

You are voting for Net Controls who ran the net and mobiles  
that ran in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter which were the months of  
Oct, Nov and Dec of 2005  
1 vote per Quarter --- Please

Please enter below:

Call Sign\* \_\_\_\_\_ or Election Key\* \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Award for:                      1<sup>st</sup> choice    2<sup>nd</sup> choice

Best Net Control – SSB:                      \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_

Best Net Control - CW:                      \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_

Best Mobile – SSB    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_

Best Mobile – CW    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_

Best Team (Enter both calls); \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_                      \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:    Chuck Theisen, Elections Coordinator  
8075 174<sup>th</sup> Belhaven Loop  
The Villages, FL 32162

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Clip or copy and mail this ballot or use the handy electronic voting system at <http://marac.org/elections>

Results of the:

### MARAC BYLAWS

#### PROPOSED AMMENDMENTS RATIFICATION BALLOT

Question 1:                      YES 51 NO 0

Question 2:                      YES 51 NO 0

Question 3:                      YES 48 NO 3

Charles L Theisen K9IA Elections Coordinator

## Major Awards Issued For The Month Of

**November**

KD9ZP - Awards Manager

**Awards and  
Birthdays**

Award	Number
LC-1	157
LC-2	3
Roadrunner(LC-3)	7
Ran All State	3
All Others	5

**Other Awards****Roadrunner Issued Per Month**

Call	Date	Award	Number
N9STL	12/17/2005	5 Star	# 22
W0DSY	12/19/2005	Worked all Counties - 6thTime	# 25
KB6UF	12/29/2005	Last County Count 425	# 26
KL1V	12/29/2005	Last County Count 425	# 27
KO1U	12/29/2005	Last County Count 75	# 216
ND3T	12/29/2005	Last County Count 225	# 65
N4CD	12/29/2005	Last County Count 1200	# 3
AC2J	12/29/2005	Last County Count 200	# 85
WG6X	12/29/2005	Last County Count 525	# 18
KN4Y	12/29/2005	USA - Single Band	# 2 - 20M - 3077 Counties

**USA-CA****Issued By K1BV****Roadrunner USA-CA**

To Call	Award Date	Certificate Number
W8TZA	12/13/2005	1129
KA5AGM	12/24/2005	1130

**Roadrunner - Birthdays**

Current Call	Birthday Date
W5RJ	Jan - 01
WA2ZYM	Jan - 01
KN6ZB	Jan - 02
KQ8D	Jan - 03
WS7R	Jan - 04
AJ1M	Jan - 05
KY0E	Jan - 06
W8QOI	Jan - 06
N2OCW	Jan - 06
K9FZ	Jan - 07
N0DIA	Jan - 07
KL7IAA	Jan - 07
KE0AY	Jan - 08
KK0L	Jan - 09
K4QFK	Jan - 11
W0QE	Jan - 13
WD3P	Jan - 13
NS4C	Jan - 14
KJ4FM	Jan - 14
W0QDL	Jan - 14
W4CCT	Jan - 15
K1BV	Jan - 20
WO7HI	Jan - 20
KN4Y	Jan - 20
KF5DE	Jan - 22
KB0MHH	Jan - 23
W0RRY	Jan - 25
N4MYZ	Jan - 26
K1ER	Jan - 26
K0GEN	Jan - 26
N2NB	Jan - 28
KF7SG	Jan - 28
WB0DUL	Jan - 30

## 2006 SOUTH CENTRAL MINI

**WHEN:** Feb. 23, 24, & 25, 2006

**WHERE:** Best Western Palm Aire Hotel & Suites, 415 S.  
International Blvd. at Exp. 83, Weslaco, TX 78596

**ROOM RATE:** \$58.00 /Night plus tax. Includes free buffet  
breakfast.

**RESERVATIONS:** Call 1-800-248-6511 and mention MARAC to  
get the special rate. Same rate applies if you come in early or  
stay late. Our block of rooms will be held til Jan. 5. Please  
reserve before then if possible.

The hotel is located on Expressway 83 and FM 1015.  
There will be an antenna forum and undetermined others.  
**PRIZES:** Please consider donating a door prize.

## CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Registration includes name badge, group photo and prize drawing

Single..... X \$10.00=\_\_\_\_\_

OM/YL Couple..... X \$15.00=\_\_\_\_\_

Chuck Wagon Dinner (Thursday night)..... X \$16.00=\_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Night Dinner..... X \$18.00=\_\_\_\_\_

Total

Name\_\_\_\_\_ Call\_\_\_\_\_ USACA#\_\_\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_ Call\_\_\_\_\_ USACA#\_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail address of primary registrant:**

Send a check for the total registration & dinner fees payable to:

Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL

Phone: 956-636-9161

21175 FM 2556

E-mail: Joycenul@aol.com

Santa Rosa, TX 78593

Cell: 956-202-3105

*The County Line Roadrunner*  
**MARAC Secretary**  
**111 Lakeview Dr.**  
**Leesburg, FL 34788**

***“A Road Runner Is A Very Fast Bird”***

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#### **Board of Directors**

**President:** Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, 21175 FM2556, Santa Rosa, TX 78593 1-956-636-9161, wb9nul@marac.org

**Vice-President:** Mark Michel, W9OP, 1615 Oakridge Rd., Neenah, WI 54956, 1-920-722-4034, w9op@marac.org

**Secretary:** Norm Ellison, W2IBB, 111 Lakeview Dr., Leesburg, FL 34788, 352-589-5760, w2lsh@marac.org

**Treasurer:** James Grandinetti, KZ2P, P.O. Box 770777, Naples, FL 34107-0777, 1-239-514-0861,

k2jg@marac.org

**Great Lakes Director:** OPEN

**North Central Director:** John Robson, WB9STT, 150 W. Wise Rd., Schaumburg, IL 60193, 1-847-891-3906, robsonjohna@aol.com

**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, w0mu@marac.org

**Pacific Director:** Robert T. Devine, KC6AWX, 407 Alameda Del Prado, Novato, CA 94949-6302, 1-415-883-8980, kc6awx@marac.org

**Southeast Director:** David Splitt, KE3VV, 6111 Utah Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20015-2005, 1-202-362-3355 ke3vv@marac.org

#### **Appointees**

**Awards Manager:** Gene A. Olig Sr., KD9ZP, PO Box 2295 Fond du Lac, WI 54936-2295, 1-920-923-0130, kd9zp@marac.org

**Newsletter Editor:** Dave Hyatt, KU4YM, 116 Old Course Rd., Summerville, SC 29485, 1-843-442-8666, ku4ym@arrl.net

**Sunshine Coordinator:** Nancy Nosker, W0NAN, PO Box 98, 14 W. 4th Ave. Grand Marais, MN 55604-0098, 1-218-387-1546 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, 1-920-927-1605, k9ia@marac.org

**MARAC General Counsel:** David Splitt, KE3VV, 6111 Utah Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20015-2461, 1-202-362-3355, ke3vv@marac.org

**MARAC Historian:** Eldon “Sonny” Sanders, W5DVW 4161 Old Barker Ranch Rd. College Station, Tx 77845, w5dvw@marac.org

**MARAC Webmaster:** (See Information Coordinator)  
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.