



THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

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



Volume XXXVI

November 2006

Number 11

From My Point of View

Joyce, WB9NUL

Wow! Myrtle Beach was wonderful. The weather was great. The view from the hotel was spectacular. The banquet food was out of this world. The friendship and good times we shared were priceless. Jeff, AF3X and Bob, N4XML did a superb job... and that was with both of them feeling ill. Hope you both are feeling better. Carol Ann, AB2LS and Norm, W2IBB were kind enough to donate radios to be raffled off and then donated the proceeds to MARAC. Thank you both very much. The next mini convention will be at San Angelo, Texas and Barry and I hope to see you there in February.

The Awards Committee is at work rewording and tweaking some of the awards. I encourage you to contact your District Representative or Janet, the Awards Custodian if you have any input or ideas.

I have a question to you the members about the 5 band award. There has been very little activity or request for the award in the last 5 years. Is anyone still working toward that award? Let me hear from you.

Duane, WV2B is ready to take a break as SSB Contest coordinator. So...I am looking for a volunteer to replace Duane. Please e-mail me at Joycenul@aol.com or phone me at 956-202-3373 if you would be interested in the position.

Barry and I wish each of you a pleasant Thanksgiving. We will be spending it with friends and I get to do one of my favorite things...Cook! Happy County Hunting! Joyce, WB9NUL

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Dateline CW

Ed, KN4Y

She had a complete ignorance of everything a CW county hunter does not need to know,

I left the MARAC South East Mini convention Myrtle Beach site in the darkness of the morning and when a few miles from home the sky opened and tons of water hit the highway; this is nature's way of washing the South Carolina salt spray off my vehicle. I go to my radio shack to see if Gator has become un-lost. Yep, there is Gator's four-by-four parked next to the shack. I honk the horn and park my vehicle.

Gator gets out of his truck, "Welcome back Dude, how be the convention?" "It was a great gathering of county hunters. There and back it was 1105 miles and the weather was great until the last few miles." "Was Al there to keep things running smoothly?" "No, Al turned the wrong way when he left Arkansas." "You serious?" Gator had a look of concern on his face. "No Gator, I was just funning with you, but Al was not there." "What is that hanging around your neck, you look like a hospital orderly." "That is my name badge." "Name badge, I cannot read you name." "That is the problem Gator. The name should have been at least a half-inch in height. When you meet a county hunter you can glance at the name badge to refresh the memory. Oh well, live and learn."

Gator goes to his truck and gets a twelve pack and several cans of French fried potatoes, "I figure you would be thirsty and lunchchee after that long drive." I must tell Jerry even a Gator is right once in a while. He opens two cans of fries and uncaps two 807's. "Fill me in on the mini happenings."

"The conveners were Jeffery AF3X and John W5UGD. They are to be applauded for an interesting and successful convention. Myrtle Beach is a nice area to visit but is not appealing enough to entice me for a return visit. Unfortunately Jeffery got to feeling poorly and could not enjoy the fruits of his labors." "I told you to take a jug of my elixir. Jeffery would have been up to speed in twenty minutes." I nod my head yes, "I will take a jug to the next convention."

I take a long cooling swig before I continue. "The convention was located at the Springmaid Beach Resort on Myrtle Beach in South Carolina." "That Springmaid be interesting." "Gator, stop interrupting. The resort is a stone's throw from the Atlantic Ocean and I had a very nice accommodations. I estimate there were 70 people there, mostly county hunters." "I would think they be all county hunters." I ignore Gator and continue. "The hospitality room number was 117 and well attended." "Was the Texan county hunter Joyce in charge?" "Yes why do you ask?" It is Gator's turn to ignore me and gets two more 807's. I finish off the bottle and continue, "Saturday was the busy day. The first forum was an antenna discussion by K6JN." "Where be that Texan antenna Guru?" He was not there, now hushup. Cliff discussed wire antennas. Next came the CW forum, moderated by KN4Y." Gator hands me a can of French fries, "I think Al would do a better job" I ignore Gator and concentrate on the fries, then I continue, "Next came the Street Atlas forum by WQ7A." I thought y'all were county hunters not street hunters." "Gator, hush your mouth, Terry presented a interesting program. Last but not least came a Digital TV presentation by K1DFO." I take a swig while waiting for a comment from Gator, but nothing. Walt also made an interesting presentation. "After the forums we all went to the hospitality room, except those who went to the beach.

Gator gets two more cool ones, "Okay Dude, let's cut the BS and get to the nitty-gritty; what happened at the CW meeting." "Forum." "Whatever."

"This was an official forum because there was a agenda and Norm rode shotgun. The decisions of the group were to be put into stone but the local Office Depot and Staples did not have marble tablets in stock." "Moses probably bought them all." Gator is laughing hysterically. "Do want to hear what happened?" Tears are running down Gator's cheeks and he gives me the high sign to continue. "First we discussed the roaming around the 30-Meter band looking for a CW net frequency." "Moses again." I give gator the squint eye and continue, "It was decided to find a frequency that benefits the majority of county hunters. All agreed that no matter what frequency is chosen someone would have a problem." "I liked 10.114 MHz." "Most did, but some had a problem with QRM from DX." "You are not suppose to use Q-signals in discussions." "GO TO... the cooler and get two more cool ones. Gator gets two 807's and returns, "What did you actually decide at the forum?" "Nothing?"

“That is normal.” I give Gator the evil eye.

“We did agree the 40-Meter net is 7.038.5 KHz. Next we decided for the benefit of CW county hunting the Net Control Station would announce mobiles at 20-22 WPM. The current CW net protocol will be reprinted in the Roadrunner for the new CW county hunters. The general consensus of the attendees is a mobile operator sets the CW pace during the run. Next the majority suggested the K3IMC forum be used for CW announcements. Next on the agenda is other topics were to be discussed, but there were none.” “Did you all discuss the MARAC CW contest?” “No, we figured Randy already had the rules finalized for publication.” “I agree you should have set all that BS in stone.” Gator again laughs hysterically. I ignore him and have another swig.

I gently slap Gator aside the head, “That is what happened at the CW forum, the next major item was the group photo.” “Why is a group photo taken?” “There is no reason, it is a tradition. By the way I received my picture at the banquet, here take a look at it.” I slide the picture out of the plain brown paper envelope and hand it to Gator. “The ocean is calm, you need to hang this on the wall.” “Why.” “It will assure a gremlin free shack.” I grab the picture from Gator. He grabs his waist, “I got to go, I have several customers on the brink of withdrawal and I must save them. As Gator heads towards his vehicle he yells, When you were in Myrtle Beach did you notice the southern drivers stop when the stoplight is red. Some even stop when it is yellow” He is gone like a paycheck the week after payday.

Everyone at the Mini convention had a good time; I ran my last three South Carolina counties to complete the State. I forgot to tell Gator we had a great banquet, I sat next to Norm and won the major door prize. Both the phone and CW sweepstakes are this month and topped off with the CQ CW DX contest. I am feeling the fatigue from that long trip, time for a nap.

Mr. Ugly Award

Thanks to Kaye N9QPQ for the award presentation as the new UGLY AWARD recipient for the coming year at the SE Mini. For those that have not attended, or never knew what the comments meant on the air about MR UGLY, etc, the award was started a few years ago, given to one county hunter, who then bestows it on another at the next SE MINI. There used to be a statue of a little ugly guy, but it was changed to a large plaque with each of the recipients call signs. (and the fattest heaviest car on a large plaque—looks like the regular award on steroids!)

Here is a list of those “lucky” Mr. Ugly Award winners:

KJ8V..KZ2P..KA1JPR..KC4UG..N4UJK..WG6X..AA9JJ..KB6UF..N9QPQ..KM9X

After the mini, I was approached by a couple hams, some that are past recipients, to explain the unwritten rules of the UGLY Award. It used to MR Ugly, until Ron gave it the BI-SEX change, and announced Kaye as the winner last year. There are no votes, no polls and no advertisements. When you get it, it should be a surprise, and it was! It is more than a popularity award, or an achievement award, as it should means much more. It was explained as an acknowledgment or activity, sense of humor, and service. I am happy to have it, and of course, all that have met me know I am qualified for the UGLY part. Now I will be working on who the next recipient will be for the SE Mini in 2007! The little ugly guy will also be returning as part of the award, for those that have to fly home. The Plaque will come later a different way. Dan KM9X

SC Mini

2007 SOUTH CENTRAL MINI

WHEN: February 8, 9 & 10, 2007

WHERE: San Angelo Inn & Conference Center
441 Rio Concho Drive
San Angelo, TX 76903 www.hotelsanangelo.com

ROOM RATE: \$73.00/night plus tax.
 Includes a free breakfast buffet.

RESERVATIONS: Call 1-800-784-7839 and mention **HAM RADIO** to get the special rate. This rate is available for Wed. Feb 7th thru Sat. Feb 10th. Our block of rooms will be held until January 25, 2007. After this date regular rates apply. Plenty of parking available for RV's and Big Rigs.

There is a tour of Fort Concho scheduled for Friday afternoon as well as shopping and sightseeing along Historic Concho Ave and the Concho River. There will be a couple of forums on Saturday. I will update you as to what the forums will be when they are scheduled.

A radio has been donated to the South Central Mini and it will be raffled off, with all proceeds going to MARAC.

Please consider bringing a door prize for the banquet Saturday evening.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Registration, includes name badge, group photo, and prize drawing

Single..... _____ X \$15.00= _____

OM/YL Couple..... _____ X \$25.00= _____

Chuck Wagon Buffet (Friday night)..... _____ X \$20.00= _____

Saturday Night Banquet..... _____ X \$25.00= _____

Please let me know which you would prefer:

Grilled Chicken Breast # _____

Roast Beef Au Jus # _____

Tour of Fort Concho Please let me know if you are interested and how many will be attending the tour No _____ Yes _____ # _____

CALL _____ NAME _____ USACA# _____ MARAC# _____

CALL _____ NAME _____ USACA# _____ MARAC# _____

EMAIL address of primary registrant _____

Send a check or money order for the total registration and dinner fees payable to:

Janet Camron, KC5QCB
7641 Gladiola
San Angelo, TX 76901

Phone 325-659-2802
Cell 325-226-0869
email kc5qcb@cox.net

Please have registration in no later than January 15, 2007

Oops

The phone number for new member #R4286, Jeff, N8II, was reported incorrectly. The phone number should have been 304-876-3620. Please change your records.

For Sale

All in Excellent condition - Very little usage.

(1) Kenwood TS 570 DG Transceiver, HF, w/DSP, w/upgrades, Ser. # 11200162 , and a KW YK - 88C-1 , 500HZ CW Filter (a \$129.99 value) installed. \$ 750.00

(1) KW SP-23 Matching Speaker..... \$ 40.00

(will not sell unless KW 570 sells)

(1) KW Deskmike MC - 60 (new - tried out, but never put into service)..... \$ 80.00

(1) Kenwood TS 50, HF, Transceiver (used only for one mobile trip) \$ 500.00

All pricing less Shipping cost.

clayw4xt@win.net or call 502-777-3611 or 502-447-1995 after 8 EDST

New Members

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-4287	K0BH	Bob Strohecker	20909 Eagle Road	Burlington Junction, MO	Nodaway	660-725-4103 bhardtw@iamotelephone.com
R-4288	WB8TCO	Mark Pinsky	3773 Highlander Way W.	Ann Arbor, MI	Washtenaw	734-747-8555 hmpinsky@comcast.net

Treasurer's Report

October 31, 2006

Funds Balance September 30, 2006		\$24,007.79
Income:		
Dues	\$482.00	
Awards Chairman Income	\$671.05	
Logger Distribution	\$100.00	
Money Market Interest	\$20.45	
		<u>\$1,273.50</u>
Expenses:		
Awards Chairman Expenses	\$177.04	
Fairmont Awards - plaques	\$122.00	
Stafford Engraving – plaques	\$112.00	
Print-Right, Inc – newsletter	\$351.19	
		<u>\$762.23</u>
		\$511.27
Account Balances		\$24,519.06
Money Market Account	\$20,038.83	
Checking Account	<u>\$4,480.23</u>	
		\$24,519.06

Note:

The following monies are not included in the above:

Awards Chairman's Funds	\$1,200.00
Convention Chairman's Funds - 2007	\$2,500.00

Awards and Birthdays

Roadrunner USA-CA		
To Call	Award Date	Certificate Number
KI7WO	10/10/2006	1145

Roadrunner Issued Per Month			
Call	Date	Award	Number
KB6UF	10/29/2006	Last County Count 525	# 20
WG6X	10/29/2006	Last County Count 600	# 15
KM9X	10/29/2006	Last County Count 175	# 109
AF3X	10/29/2006	Last County Count 75	# 223
WQ7A	10/29/2006	Last County Count 200	# 89
W9MSE	10/29/2006	Last County Count 175	# 108
NX4W	10/29/2006	Last County Count 75	# 222
AA9JJ	10/29/2006	Last County Count 525	# 21
N9STL	10/29/2006	Last County Count 25	# 451
W0QE	10/13/2006	Last County Count 50	# 302
AA8HH	10/29/2006	Last County Count 50	# 303
KC0JG	10/16/2006	5 Star	# 25
K2JG	10/4/2006	Master's Gold	# 18
AB2LS	10/15/2006	Master's Gold	# 19
WG6X	10/26/2006	Master's Gold	# 20
AD6Z	10/9/2006	USA-CW	# 88
AD6Z	10/9/2006	USA-CW	# 86
AD6Z	10/9/2006	USA-CW	# 86
N3XX	10/18/2006	USA-CW	# 89
AD6Z	10/9/2006	USA-CW	# 90
N3XX	10/18/2006	USA-CW	# 91
N3XX	10/18/2006	USA-CW	# 87
N3XX	10/18/2006	USA-CW	# 87
KJ8F	10/16/2006	BINGO	# 285
KQ0B	10/16/2006	Worked all Counties - 2nd Time	# 367

Roadrunner - Birthdays	
Current Call	Birthday Date
W2NWL	Nov - 01
VE9DH	Nov - 01
W7TSM	Nov - 03
N5DWI	Nov - 03
KA3MMM	Nov - 04
WA2AKB	Nov - 04
WU4S	Nov - 06
N1API	Nov - 06
KW0U	Nov - 07
NT9V	Nov - 10
NX4W	Nov - 10
W5UGD	Nov - 11
WG6X	Nov - 11
WB9STT	Nov - 13
N4XML	Nov - 13
WB0AXN	Nov - 13
KC5DSP	Nov - 14
WA5AUR	Nov - 16
KA9FDV	Nov - 16
K7BOI	Nov - 17
N7LYR	Nov - 17
W4XT	Nov - 17
WB2AXG	Nov - 17
WB9ZHS	Nov - 17
NF0N	Nov - 18
W7WBZ	Nov - 22
KK7X	Nov - 23
W5ETM	Nov - 23
VE1BES	Nov - 24
KC6AWX	Nov - 26
N9HRX	Nov - 28

The County Line Roadrunner
MARAC Secretary
PO Box 758
PARK RAPIDS, MN 56470

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FOND DU LAC, WI
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“A Road Runner Is A Very Fast Bird”

Board of Directors

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Vice-President: Chuck Secrest, AD8W, 105 E Bluff Rd, Harbor Springs, MI 49740, 231-526-7592, ad8w@charter.net
Secretary: Jerry Mertz, W0GXQ, PO Box 758, Park Rapids, MN 56470, 218-252-6848 w0gxq@unitelc.com
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Northeast Director: Donald L. Kimble, AE3Z, 242 Leisure Ln, Horseheads NY, 14845-4005 USA 1-607-795-4342, ae3z@marac.org
South Central Director: Ross Harrell, N0ZA, 2433 Bella Pago Dr, Grand Junction, CO, 81503, 970-216-6604, n0za@bresnan.net
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: Janet Camron, KC5QCB, MARAC Awards, PO Box 188, Carlsbad, TX 76934-0188, award-slady@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: Mike Fatchett, W0MU, PO Box 3500, Parker, CO 80134, 303-548-7222, w0mu@w0mu.com
Custodian, Club Call, K9DCJ: Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, 21175 FM2556, Santa Rosa, TX 78593 1-956-636-9161 wb9nul@marac.org
Election Coordinator: Brian Bird, NX0X, 4567 Caribou Lake Rd, Duluth, MN 55811, 218-729-5193, nx0x@arrl.net
MARAC General Counsel: David Splitt, KE3VV, 6111 Utah Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20015-2461, 1-202-362-3355, ke3vv@marac.org
MARAC Webmaster: (See Information Coordinator)
Dues with a printed copy of the Newsletter are \$20.00 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.