



THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

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From My Point of View

Joyce, WB9NUL

The 2008 South Central Mini is history. There were 77 people registered. I'm sorry to say the two didn't make it to Weslaco. Jerry, WD5JGS got the flu and Jean stayed home to take care of him. Sure hope you are feeling better, Jerry. Barry and I want to thank several people. Our tour guides Cheryl, KJ5PQ and Mike, KG5UZ did a great job shepherding people to the orange grove and to old Mexico. Tim, KD5CXO and Terry, WQ7A did a great job with the logger program. W3DYA led the CW meeting and I'm told it went smoothly. Janet, KC5QCB and Randy, AJ5ZX were kind to be my "gofers". K9GTQ, Tom and Jolene, N9MBL were in charge of transportation and procurement and did a great job. Also, Tim, KD5CXO and his wife Faith helped to stuff the envelopes. Barry and I want to send a big thank you to all who attended the convention and made it so enjoyable. Everyone seemed so please that they have decided to come back next year. Please put February 12, 13 & 14th on you calendar.

It is with deep sadness that I must pass on this news. Ham, N4MXG has passed away. Some of you will remember Ham from past conventions. For those who didn't know Ham he was a warm and funny fellow. Alice, N4MYZ was married to Ham for many years and I know she will miss him very much. Alice, our prayers and love go out to you and your family in your time of sorrow.

The Michigan Mini will be April 17, 18 & 19, 2008. Ed, K8ZZ and Joe, W8TVT are hosting the mini with help from lots of other county hunters. The convention will be held at the Holiday Inn West Bay in Traverse City, Michigan. The room rate will be \$72 plus tax. The cut-off date is March 18, 2008. Be sure and mention MARAC.

Travel safely and may the bands improve as the year progresses.

73, Joyce, WB9NUL

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Dateline CW

Ed, KN4Y

The little Road says, GO;
The radio shack says, Stay.
I am a CW county hunter,
I must go.

I take advantage of this mobility as I work the CW county hunters on their way to the 2008 South Central get together at Weslaco, Texas. They came from many points of the compass working the many counties of Texas to converge at the designated motel. I hear Gators four-by-four bellowing useless noise as he approaches the radio shack. I check the cooler as I hear Gator shut off the barking engine.

“Come in Gator, the door’s unlocked.” “Good day Dude, what you be doing?” “I was looking at the list of mobiles I worked headed to the South Central get together. I also got many ‘A’ prefix counties from Steve, AK8A and Ray, AB4YZ.” Gator looks at the beer stained unused registration from lying on the desk, “I see Joyce, WB9NUL, be in charge. Sure wish I was there.” “Why?” “She knows the meaning of a hospitality room.” That triggers the grab instinct, so I go to the cooler and get two cold ones. Gator pops his top. “I see they had fried dead catfish.” “That reminds me, Wal-Mart had a sale and I got several cans of hot and spicy sardines.”

I roll the top back on the recyclable can of sardines, “They smell and look raunchy but close your eyes and try some.” Hot spicy sardines and a cold brew; the only thing better is working K8ZZ in a snow storm. “By the way Gator, I got some good comments on our run on 80-meters.” “I agree. That was fun. We check in and run on 40-meter CW net (7.0565 MHz) then QSY to the 80-meter net (3.5565 MHz).. That way you only need 2 antennas.” Gator has been studying his Q-signals. “Another trip is a must and what do you mean we?” Gator gets two more cold ones, “What are our plans for the State QSO parties in April.

I get my schedule journal, the Georgia QSO party is April 12 and 13 and Norm, W3DYA, plans to update his visa and red clay allotment and be a Rover in the Georgia party. Then the world renowned Florida QSO party will be on April 26 and 27. I plan to run in Southern bottom of Georgia in the GAQP and the Northern counties in the FQP.

Gator is not paying attention he is looking at my County Challenge Top list totals. “I see you finally got your act together and updated your band books.” “Yes, I moved all my logs to the new Logger.” “That is impressive.” Gator’s phone sends CW; a signal there is a problem in the back forty. “Got to go, the vacuum seal at the 90 percent level is leaking.” He is out the door and roaring towards the main road wondering if a fat person can go skinny-dipping.

I forgot to mention to Gator I worked Norm, W3DYA and Charlie, NO5W in the the LaQP, and Guff, KS5A in the MsQP and AA4S in the NcQP. I had bowling tournament conflicts but was able to get a few hours in each State QSO party. I did get a few new counties in each state on 80-meters.

Jerry, W0GXQ, e-mailed a bear of a story, and the moral is when confronted with a bad situation some times the best solution is to take a nap. Ask Jerry for details, it is time for me to take a nap.

New Members**Please Welcome Our New Members and Add them to Your Data Base**

<u>MARAC No.</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>Full Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>City and State</u>	<u>Home Cty</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>
R-4336	K8EMS	Mike Delke	6185 M-35	Gladstone, MI	Delta	906-428-1719
mdelke@chartermi.net						
R-4337	K0IYA	Robert Dutton	405 S. Jefferson	Florissant, MO	St Louis	314-838-4491
rmdlmd@swbell.net						
R-4338	WB4X	Brent Sutphin	175 Woodstone Dr	Stoneville, NC	Rockingham	336-548-6651
bsutphin@triad.rr.com						

Michigan Mini**April 17-19, 2008 - Traverse City, MI!**

The 2008 Michigan Mini will be held at the Holiday Inn West Bay in Traverse City, MI!

The Holiday Inn West Bay is located right on the Lake Michigan within walking distance of downtown Traverse City, MI. Camping is nearby, contact Ed, K8ZZ, for details. Room rates will be \$72.00 plus taxes (pet rooms 10\$/night extra) and the rates will be held until March 18th. **Be sure to reserve your rooms prior to March 18th!**

To reserve your room contact the hotel directly at 800-888-8020 or 231-947-3700. Mention MARAC to get the group rate.

Thank you!

2008 Michigan Mini Team

MARAC Logger

Part 7 – More Tables
Gene, KD9ZP

This month I had planned on showing how to show needs and show your log, but, I realized that I needed to define a few more tables – so here goes.

- **Table: States**
- **Purpose: List all States**
- **Database Location: Common**
- **Note: For the purposes of the MARAC Logger program, there are 52 states – including ‘DX’ and ‘XX’. ‘XX’ is used when the county is unknown**

Field	Description
State ID	2 letter state abbreviation – i.e. ‘WI’
State	Full name of the state – i.e. Wisconsin
County Count	Number of counties in the state – i.e. 72 (Wisconsin)

- **Table: List of Counties**
- **Purpose: List all Counties**
- **Database Location: Common**
- **Note: For the purposes of the MARAC Logger program, there are 3079 Counties – including ‘DX’ and ‘Unknown’.**

Field	Description
County ID	Numbers from 1 to 3077 0 is DX 9999 is Unknown
State ID	2 letter state ID – i.e. ‘WI’
County	County Name – i.e. ‘Fond du Lac’
Abbreviation – 3 Letter	3 letter abbreviation (used in CW) – i.e. ‘FON’
Abbreviation – 4 Letter	4 letter abbreviation (used in CW) – i.e. ‘FOND’
Abbreviation – 5 Letter	5 letter abbreviation (used in CW) – i.e. ‘FONWI’ Includes the State ID

- **Table: Book(s)**
All Book Tables are named:

i.e. – ‘Book – YL’

- **Purpose:** Tracks the QSO ID for the County in the Book
- **Database Location:** User Call
- **Notes:** There is one table for each Book
 - Previous nth time Books are still kept
 - Almost all Books have the same format shown below except:
 - ⊙YL/OM – which has: QSO ID – 1 , and QSO ID – 2
 - ⊙ 5 Band which has: QSO ID – 1, QSO ID - 2, QSO ID - 3, QSO ID - 4, QSO ID - 5.
 - ⊙ 5 Star which has: QSO ID – 1, QSO ID - 2, QSO ID - 3, QSO ID - 4, QSO ID - 5.

Field	Description
County ID	Numbers from 1 to 3077 If the county is not worked, it is not listed. I.e. If you still need 5 counties, there will be only 3072 entries
QSO ID	Number of the QSO ID pointing to the QSO – Master QSO ID

Next month, since I have introduced you to the basic Tables needed to track and Award, I will demonstrate how to Display the Log for any book.

If I have enough room, I will display how to show the Needs for a Book.

73's
KD9ZP
SC Mini



**Treasurer's Report
February 29, 2008**

Funds Balance January 31, 2008 **\$27,560.64**

Income:

Awards Manager Income	\$312.00	
Dues	\$678.00	
Money Market Interest	\$19.71	
Logger Distribution	\$20.00	
		<u>\$1,029.71</u>

Expenses:

Awards Manager Expenses	\$183.18	
Print Right – Road Runner	\$563.00	
Bank Fee	\$3.50	
		<u>\$749.68</u>

\$280.03

Account Balances **\$27,840.67**

Checking Account \$7,473.38

Money Market Account \$20,367.29

\$27,840.67

Note:

The following monies are not included in the above:

Awards Chairman's Funds	\$1,200.00
Convention Chairman's Funds - 2008	\$2,500.00

National
40th Annual National Convention 2008 Registration
July 10th - 13th Visalia, California
(Deadline for Early Registration Prize Drawing is May 1st, 2008)

NAME: (First Mi, Last)
ADDRESS:
CITY ST/PROV POSTAL CODE

Convention registration fee: \$ 45.00
(One registration fee/family unit - Includes 1 prize ticket & 1 group photo)

NAME ON BADGE CALLSIGN USACA#
Additional Name Badges (list information below) Total # @ \$5.00 each = \$
Name Callsign USACA# Relation
Name Callsign USACA# Relation

Relation: W-Wife, H-Husband, D-Daughter, S-Son, M-Mother, F-Father, X-Friend, GD-Grand Daughter, GS-Grand Son, for any additional badges please attach or list on back of form.

Enter number of persons that will attend events

Wednesday 09 July - Check-In/Do It Yourself Activities

Thursday 10 July (Tour below is limited to Max of 25 People)

Everything Lavender Tour #Adults X \$25.00 = \$

Friday 11 July (Tour below is limited to Max of 32 People)

Sequoia National Park - Depart 8:00/9:00 AM #Adults X \$35.00 = \$

Saturday 12 July

Banquet - Herb and Garlic Encrusted Prime Rib #Adults X \$30.00 = \$
Banquet - Chicken Cordon Bleu Supreme #Adults X \$28.00 = \$
Banquet - Cajun Salmon #Adults X \$28.00 = \$

Additional Prize Tickets

Prize (Singles) X \$ 1.00 = \$
Prize (Book 12 tickets) X \$10.00 = \$
Cash (singles) X \$ 1.00 = \$
Cash (Book 12 tickets) X \$10.00 = \$

Photographs:

Extra: X \$10.00 = \$
YL: X \$10.00 = \$
USA-CA: X \$10.00 = \$
CW: X \$10.00 = \$
DATA: X \$10.00 = \$

Total Amount Enclosed: \$

Mail Registration Form and Check to - Robert Devine (KC6AWX) [Home Phone 1-415-883-8980]

(Make check payable to "MARAC", 407 Alameda Del Prado, Novato, CA 94949

Hotel Reservations - call direct to Holiday Inn-Hotel & Conference Center-Visalia, California

1-(559) 651-5000. Mention: 'Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club' or MARAC'

Room Rate \$89.00 + tax for either Standard King Bed or Two-Double Beds

The County Line Roadrunner
MARAC Secretary
PO Box 758
Park Rapids, MN 56470



“A Road Runner Is A Very Fast Bird”

Monthly Deadline for Articles is the 25th!

Board of Directors

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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.