



# THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

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## From My Point of View

Joyce, WB9NUL

The search is over and MARAC has a volunteer for Awards Manager. Randy, AA8R has agreed to take on the job. The Board will need to confirm Randy at the next meeting. I want to again thank Janet for the hard work that she has put in for MARAC the last two years. Please be patient as the packing and shipping will take some time and for Randy to get into the swing of things as Awards Manager. I thank all of you who applied for the position.

On a sad note MARAC has lost several members. The following will be missed by all of us that knew them: N1HHW, Bob, W9MYE, Walt, WA8RSQ, Eddie and N9CHU. Also, though not a member KA5TQF, Dave has passed away. My thoughts are with all the families.

I look forward to seeing all of you in Michigan. Barry and I will fly in on Tuesday evening. Hope you all got your registrations in early so you can win the radio! The convention team has been hard at work and has planned a special convention for us. They have asked me to do the hospitality room again so you'll know where to find me.

As I write this, Barry is up in Illinois helping his mother and I'm in Texas taking care of our cats. Perhaps, I'll get a little radio time in for a change! Till next month, 73, Joyce



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**Dateline CW**

Ed, KN4Y

No place affords a more striking conviction of the vanity of a county hunter hopes, than a rare county line.

This is the ARRL year of the State QSO party. Being of sound mind I still operated CW as a Rover in the Georgia QSO party. The bands were great considering the lack of sun spots but there were plenty of W6RK spots. Gator is checking my 80-meter contacts against my county needs. Saturday I had a driver and Sunday I drove by myself stopping and running the county. Saturday the stations were calling during the entire time in the county, no lag time between counties. Sunday being Easter there seemed to be a core of stations that were worked in each county. I never got around to using the 160-meter antenna.

Gator gets up and gets two cool ones. "You made 141 contacts on 80-meters and worked 9 new counties, a natural bingo and one for fifth time around. I see you did not work that Texan dude Norm, W3DYA. I will get the rest of the log later. How was the Sunday trip?" I wet my whistle before I continue. "Saturday as you know was uneventful, great weather, no flooded back roads and decent band conditions. Sunday I was alone and would stop in a county and run on 20 and 40-meters until no stations answered me. After three calls I drove to the next county. By the way, the red clay makes mobile to mobile contact in Georgia very difficult because of its RF absorption to twenty-feet." Gator's response is digital.

I pretend not to notice him and continued. "I stopped in Arlington at a strip mall that was closed for Easter. I pulled into the parking lot and started running Early county. I was working three stations per minute when a local deputy dude came up to the window and asked for identification. We talked for a few minutes and it seems I had set off the alarms in the stores. I told him about amateur radio and he responded that he thought there no longer were amateur radio operators. When he was convinced I was not a thief robbing a store while sitting in my van I moved on. I stopped at a catfish pond but 20-meters had gotten noisy." Gator is laughing hilariously; it was my turn for a digital response.

Saturday I traveled 476 miles, ran 16 counties and made 604 QSO's. Sunday I traveled 295 miles, ran 8 counties and made 259 QSO's. I notice as I get older I get butt fatigue so Monday I plan on a visit to the butt spa. Gator hands me a cool one, "Did you work the Ontario QSO party when you were at the bowling tournament in Pasco County?" "Yes, in between shifts I put the antenna on and worked VE3GSI and VE3MGY the only stations I heard on 40-meters" "How about the Michigan QSO party?" "I heard a few stations but they could not hear me. It was a washout."

Gator's attention span is shorter than a wavelength and he picks up a sheet of paper, "Well, the Michigan QSO party may have been a washout and I read where the MARAC national convention is to be in Petronnewkey, Michigan." "That is pronounced Petoskey and comes from an Ottawa Indian Chief, Chief Pet-O-Sega. It is also the name of a stone that is a rock and a fossil composed of a fossilized coral, Hexagonaria percarinata. The town is located in Emmet County and is home to the historic Gaslight Shopping District." "Do you mean R...?" "Gator, behave yourself." But I have to laugh at the thought. Gator is grinning from ear to ear as he heads to the cooler.

"If you read the notice there will also be a tour of the Icebreaker Mackinaw." "I saw a story

about icebreakers on television.” I ignore the interruption, “There is also a visit to the Young Americans Dinner Theater and a tour of Mackinac Island.” What do they do on Mackinac Island?” “I think the major export is equestrian recycles.” “You mean Horse....” I throw a CD disk at Gator as his cell phone rings. “Got a problem with a steam jet, see you later.” He throws me a sheet of paper and he is gone like a swig of ale. It is a list of mobiles that ran last month on the CW frequencies..

AA8R, AE3S, AK8A, K0ARS, K0LG, K0PY, K2VB, K4XI, K7DM, K8ZZ, KB6UF, KC0MO, KE3VV, KG7E, KL1V, KM1C, KN4Y, N4AAT, N4CD, N6HH, N9JF, N9QS, NA7W, NM2L, VA3XOV, W0NAC, W3DYA, W3ZUH, W4HSA, W5CD, W7GOK, W8MP, W9MSE. WA4PGM.

I notice the date of the National convention is July 8-11, 2009. But this month is the MARAC CW and SSB contests, the 10-10 CW contest, the seventh Area QSO party, the Indiana QSO party, the New England QSO party. The big one is the CQ CW WPX contest. I need to work on my FQP logs, but it is nap time and I lean back and reminisce about the years of riding the great lakes, past Mackinac Island, on an ore carrier propelled by a big four cylinder steam engine. *zzzZZZZzzz*.



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**Elections**

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*MARAC 2009 Annual Voting*

**W**e are currently voting for the MARAC positions of South Central Director and Southeast Director and the following candidates are running for these offices:

South Central Director: Ross Harrell, M.D. - N0ZA

Southeast Director: Richard "Scottie" Scott - N4AAT

Southeast Director: David Splitt - KE3VV

Voting will be taking place during the month of May only. Voting online is preferred at <http://www.marac.org/elections/default.asp> however: I will also be accepting mailed ballots postmarked during the month of May. Only members living in the open districts can vote for their own director position.

The voting page on the MARAC website will be available starting May 1<sup>st</sup> thru May 31<sup>st</sup>. If you prefer to mail your ballot to me, you can either copy this page or cut it out. Please circle the above candidates you are voting for along with enclosing your callsign and MARAC member number to:

Lloyd Smith –NX4W  
MARAC Election Coordinator  
4413 NW 36<sup>th</sup> Dr  
Gainesville, FL 32605-5424

*MARAC Voting Information*

Remember, if you are a new member or are REJOINING following a lapse in membership, you are **NOT** eligible to submit nominations or vote in an election until the first day of the month following receipt of initial payment of dues and valid membership application to the Secretary of MARAC. Those individuals maintaining uninterrupted membership status are not restricted from nominating or voting in the current month.

During the month of June you will be voting for the CW and SSB County hunters of the year. Also voting will be available for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter for Best Net Controls, Mobiles and Teams.

73 until next month,  
Lloyd Smith – NX4W  
MARAC Election Coordinator



National

41st Annual MARAC National Convention
8 July - 11 July 2009 Petoskey, Michigan

NAME: (First, Last) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ST/PROV: \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

Convention registration fee - Includes 1 prize ticket & 1 group photo. \$ 35.00

NAME ON BADGE \_\_\_\_\_ CALLSIGN \_\_\_\_\_ USACA# \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Name Badges (list information below) Total # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5.00 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign \_\_\_\_\_ USACA# \_\_\_\_\_ Relation \_\_\_\_\_

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 list or enter on back of form.

Enter number of persons that will attend events

Wednesday 8 July - Check-In /Do It Yourself Activities

Thursday 9 July

Tour of Ice Breaker/Colonial Michilimackinac #Attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$40.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
Young Americans Dinner Theatre Beef Entrée #Attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$55.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
" " " " Chicken Entrée #Attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$55.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
" " " " Fish Entrée #Attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$55.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Friday 10 July

Tour to Mackinac Island #Attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$45.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday 11 July

Banquet Beef Entrée #Attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$28.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
" Fish Entrée #Attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$26.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
" Vegetarian Entrée #Attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$24.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Prize Tickets

Prize (single tickets) \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 1.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
Prize (Book of 12 tickets) \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
Cash (single tickets) \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 1.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_
Cash (Book of 12 tickets) \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 10.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Photographs

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

Mail Registration Form and Check to:

Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MARAC 2009 Annual Convention

Attn: Chuck Secrest - AD8W

4033 N West Bay Shore Dr

Suttons Bay, MI 49682

Please make checks payable to

Chuck Secrest AD8W

Hotel Reservations - Call direct to ODAWA Casino Resort - 877-442-6464

Mention "MARAC" to get convention Room Rate of \$99.00 + tax.

**New Members**

Marac No. State	Call Home County	Full Name Phone Number	Address E Mail Address	City and
R-4369 1-908-963-1245	WO2U	Walter J O'Brien wo2u@arrl.net	11 SERPENTINE Clinton, NJ 08809	Hunterdon
R-4370 1-208-588-2366	KG7E	James W Kornacki kg7e@live.com	P.O. Box 446 Mackay, ID 83251-0446	Custer



Dave's Call --

Just a brief note. The past couple of issues have only included the reistration form for the 41st National in Petoskey, MI. For all the many details of this event, please see the February issue of the RR. All six pages of planned activities are there. If you no longer have your copy, you can find it at MARAC.org as well as a link to the web site for the convention. Ellen and I are looking forward to seeing you there.

Dave, KU4YM



**Treasurer's Report**  
April 30, 2009Funds Balance March 31, 2009 **\$20,247.12**

## Income:

Dues	\$754.00
Money Market Interest	\$5.30
Logger Distribution	\$100.00
Awards Manager Income	\$790.00
	<u>\$1,649.30</u>

## Expenses:

Bank Fee	\$3.50
Print Right – Road Runner	\$375.48
Awards Manager Expenses	\$138.07
Secretary Expenses	\$189.62
Fairmont Awards – Plaques	\$170.00
Internet Server Host	\$95.52
Advance to New Awards Manager	\$1,200.00
	<u>\$2,172.19</u>

(\$522.89)

Account Balances **\$19,724.23**

Checking Account \$1,158.27

Money Market Account \$18,565.96**\$19,724.23**

## Note:

The following monies are not included in the above:

Awards Chairman's Funds	\$1,200.00
Convention Chairman's Funds - 2009	\$4,000.00



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



*“A Road Runner Is A Very Fast Bird”*

**Monthly Deadline for Articles is the 25<sup>th</sup>!**

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**Board of Directors**

**President:** Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, 21175 FM2556, Santa Rosa, TX 78593 1-956-636-9161, joycenul@aol.com  
**Vice-President:** Chuck Secrest, AD8W, 4033 N West Bay Shore Dr, Suttons Bay, MI 49682, 231-271-7907, chuck@ad8w.com  
**Secretary:** Norm Ellison, 111 Lakeview Dr, Leesburg, FL 34788, w2ibb1@embarqmail.com  
**Treasurer:** Terry Dummler, WQ7A, PO Box 500, Yelm, WA 98597, 253-370-3377, wq7a@comcast.net  
**Great Lakes Director:** Randy Hatt, AA8R, 7878 W County Line Rd, Howard City, MI 49329, 517-812-9468, aa8r@aol.com  
**North Central Director:** Cliff Bird, AC0B, 6140 Hwy 194, Saginaw, MN 55779, 218-343-7473, ac0b@arrl.net  
**Northeast Director:** Carol-Ann Reitman, AB2LS, 100 Woodbury Rd, Highland Mills, NY 10930, 845-928-6238, ab2ls@optonline.net  
**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:** Randy Hatt, AA8R, 7878 W County Line Rd, Howard City, MI 49329, 517-812-9468, aa8r@aol.com  
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**Sunshine Coordinator:** Nancy Nosker, W0NAN, PO Box 98, 14 W. 4th Ave. Grand Marais, MN 55604-0098, 1-218-387-1546, w0nan@marac.org  
**Webmaster:** 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 joycenul@aol.com  
**Election Coordinator:** Lloyd Smith, NX4W, 4413 NW 36th Dr, Gainesville, FL 32605, 352-339-6457, nx4w@arrl.net  
**MARAC General Counsel:** David Splitt, KE3VV, 6111 Utah Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20015-2461, 1-202-362-3355, ke3vv@marac.org  
**Computer Data Manager:** Gene A Olig Sr, KD9ZP, W 4325 4th St Rd, Fond du Lac, WI 54936, 920-923-0130, kd9zp@att.net  
**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.