



THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

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Volume XXXIX

August 2009

Number 8

From My Point of View

Joyce, WB9NUL

What a great convention in Michigan. Chuck, AD8W and Sandy did a fantastic job. A few of our members went to the casino and came back a few dollars richer. The trips were entertaining. Everyone who went to the Young American's raved at how talented the troupe was. As I predicted, with Barry attending the convention, I didn't win a radio (smile). Nevertheless, I did have a wonderful time.

At the meeting I announced that this would be my final year as President. It is time for some new thoughts and ideas to improve our club. That said, I will not disappear from MARAC as I will become Past President and will still be on the board-in fact I'll be able to vote! I hope this last year of my term will see a healthy, vibrant MARAC organization...and some big improvements in propagation!

Once more I have sad news to report. We have lost two more members. KS4Q, Ernie USA-CA 861 and W4HR (W4MCM), Robert have passed away.

Don't forget about the South East Mini being held October 22nd thru the 24th. Also, the 2010 South Central Mini will be held on February 11th with departure on the 14th, in Weslaco, Texas. The site for the National Convention will also be in Weslaco. The dates for the National are July 8th with departure on the 11th. I'll be giving you details on both in future newsletters.

Congratulations to Randy AA8R on the fine job he did on the awards for the convention. He is doing an outstanding job as he takes on our awards program.

Have a safe summer.

73, Joyce WB9NUL



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Dateline CW

Ed, KN4Y

Gold is the kindest of all hosts, a master that arrives on a plaque from MARAC.

Gator arrived at the shack just as I was finishing up my IARU logs; he is carrying two espresso shots. “Here Dude this will snap the brain alert, what you be doing?” “I just finished sending my IARU logs to LOTW. More importantly, I just received this award from MARAC and trying to decide where to hang it.” I open the plain white envelope and pull out the award and hand it to Gator. He looks at the award and gives me a thumbs up, “Congratulations Dude. You got the Master Gold award, when did you get the last two counties?”

I down the espresso shot, and after my eyes realign I began my story. “I listed the last two counties I needed on the forum and Terry, WQ7A, e-mailed me he would be on the county line on August 2. I was so excited I completely forgot Canada Day.” Gator slaps the top of my head, “That Dude is a sidwinder, and that contact screwed up your all CW award.” I motion Gator to clam down, “We made the contact on CW.” “No way Dude, for Terry a key is a piece of metal that unlocks the front door” “We sure did and Jerry, W0GXQ, was there on the frequency and heard both exchanges, so there ye of little faith.” “I cannot believe you forgot Canada Day for a number 38 award.” Gator bumps the mouse. “What is that on the computer screen?”

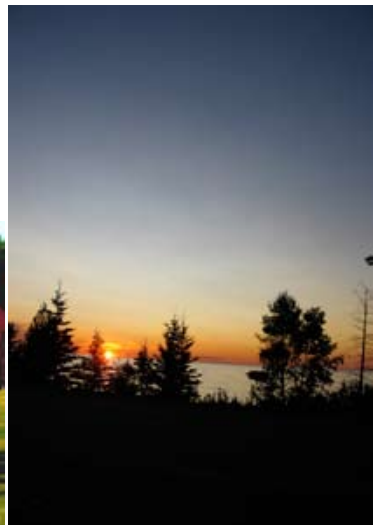
It is my turn to slap Gator on the side of the head. “That is a good award number. It is the date I started county hunting.” “1938?” “No when I was 38 years of age.” “Really?” “No.” I give Gator the evil eye but he is looking at the computer screen. “This is the log you sent in for the Master Gold award.” “Yes” “Where did you get it?” “I downloaded it from the MARAC logger.” Gator slowly scans through the log and points to a call, “That county hunter is a silent key and there are two more.” Gator closes the log, “This is too depressing.”

I change the subject, “How was the ACE meeting?” Gator laughs, “I would have had more excitement birding.” “That bad?” “Yes, but I will have more raw material for my elixir of youth.” “There is a Gold lining in every cloud.” “Your Master Gold award will be around for awhile.” “What are you talking about?” “You do not have to worry about global warming; Gold melts at 1,947 degrees F.” There comes a time when you should slap a person for no particular reason.

Gator looks at my CQ WW CW VHF contest log. “How long did you work 6-meters in the contest?” “I did about 16 hours alternating with working the CW mobile county hunters.” Gator laughs, “You worked a QSO every 24 minutes. Bet you were exhausted.” “I agree, but did you notice I still got nine new counties on 6-meters and a 2x3 call considering how un-open the band was. Remember; judge not a log by its size.” The printer stops and Gator hands me the printout of the mobiles allegedly heard during July on the county hunters CW frequencies. I look at the list and see, AA8R, AA9ZZ, AB4YZ, AB7RW, AF3X, AK8A, G4KHG, K0ARS, K0PY, K2HVN, K4BAI, K4WAK, K8QWY, K8ZZ, KA1YZV, KA3QLF, KE3VV, KA4RRU, KB6TAL, KB4XK, KB6UF, KD5JWC, KM6HB, KO1U, KS0X, N0KV, N0LX, N0ZA, N2OO, N3AHA, N4AAT, N4CD, N6HH, N8II, N9JF, N9QS, NA7W, ND9M, NF0N, NM2L, NX4W, VA3XOV, W0BH, W0GXQ, W0NAC, W3DQT, W4DF, W4HSA, W6TMD, W7IN, W8GEJ, W8JJ, W8MP, W9MSE, W9OP, WB0M, WB4OIN, WE0Q, WE7G, KL1V, KM1C.

I look up and Gator is gone, I hear the toot toot de toot as he drives off into reality. Darn, I was going to tell him the CW county Hunter of the Year is Roy, N9QS, the best CW mobile and net control is Jerry, W0GXQ and Roy Scott, KA3QLF, is the latest MARAC contest coordinator. I open the cooler and get a pre-nap knock back and check my calendar. There is the North American QSO CW party, the Maryland-DC, New Jersey, , and Hawaii State QSO parties. There is some controversy concerning g the Ohio QSO party, go to www.ohqp.org for latest information. I notice to stop my computer I have to click start. Nap time I await thee.





Member Accomplishments

June 30, 2008 - July 6, 2009

<u>USA - CA</u>	<u>WAC - 2nd</u>	<u>WAC - 5th</u>	<u>USA - CW</u>	<u>Bingo</u>
AA9ZZ	AC0B	AE3Z	AA8R	AB7RW
K0FG	KF5HY	KE3VV	K4PBY	AF3X
K5OT	LY2ZZ	N0ZA	K4XI	AJ5ZX
KB9MGI	N5KUC	N2OCW	K8QWY	KI7WO
KB9YVT	N5PR	N8CIJ	K8ZZ	N0KV
KC5QCB	N5UZW	W0DFK	N2OCW	N5KUC
KD5YUK	W3DYA	WD9HAW	N3AHA	N5MLP
KE4TTS	W6XLR			NF0N
KF2O	W9JL	<u>WAC - 7th</u>	<u>USA - CW II</u>	NN9K
N3HOO		K8CW	W3DYA	NW6S
N5MLP	<u>WAC - 3rd</u>	N4AAT		W8CE
N6HH	AA8R	N4CD	<u>USA - CW III</u>	WB4KZW
NM2L	KQ0B	N9QS	N4CD	
NU0Q	KY0E	<u>WAC - 9th</u>	N4RS	<u>5 Star</u>
W4QNW	N1BY	N4UJK	W0GXQ	AB2LS
W8FNW	N4RS		W0QE	KB6UF
WA2DWP	N5KGY		WU3H	KQ0B
WA5VGI	N7ID			N0ZA
WY7LL	<u>WAC - 4th</u>			WA9DLB
	AB2LS			
	AD8W			
	K4XI			
<u>USA - CA</u>	K6OHM	<u>Same Mobile</u>		<u>Mobile</u>
<u>Call Sign</u>	W0QE	<u>Multiple</u>	<u>Same Mobile</u>	<u>to</u>
<u>Combo</u>	WA5OPO	<u>Counties</u>	<u>Multiple States</u>	<u>Mobile</u>
N4AAT	WU3H	WB9STT	WB9STT	N3AHA

Member Accomplishments

June 30, 2008 - July 6, 2009

<u>Bingo II</u>	<u>Master Gold</u>	<u>Master Platinum</u>	<u>Polaris - Cliff</u>
AB4YZ	AE3Z	K5GE	<u>Corne Jr</u>
AE3Z	KE3VV	N4AAT	<u>Memorial</u>
KA1NX	KM9X	N4CD	N2OCW
KB6UF	KQ0B	N8KIE	NF0N
KE3VV	N2OCW	N9STL	WQ7A
KQ0B	N5UZW	W6TMD	
KY0E	N7ID		<u>Gemini - Jack</u>
N1BY	N7PIB		<u>Scroggins</u>
N2OCW	W0GXQ	<u>RAS - 1st</u>	<u>Memorial</u>
N7PIB	W9GUY	AA8R	AA8R
W0GXQ		AA9JJ	K8AO
W9GUY	<u>Native</u>	AB4YZ	KU4YM
WA9DLB	<u>American</u>	AF3X	N2OCW
WD9HAW	AA8R	K3IMC	N4XML
WG6X	K7REL	KL1V	N9QS
	KD5YUK	KU4YM	WQ7A
<u>Bing III</u>	N4XML	N2OCW	
AB2LS	N5KUC	N5KUC	<u>US</u>
N4AAT	W9JL	N9QPQ	<u>Presidents</u>
W0DFK	WB9STT	NX4W	AA8R
	WQ7A	W0NAC	KD5YUK
<u>Bingo V</u>	WY7LL	W8TAX	N5KUC
N4UJK		WY7LL	W9JL
		WY7ML	WB9STT
	<u>RAS - 2nd</u>	<u>RAS - 4th</u>	WQ7A
	N7ID	N4AAT	WY7LL

Member Accomplishments

June 30, 2008 - July 6, 2009

Contest - CW

W0QE - Mobile 1st Place (Tied)
 W9MSE - Mobile 1st Place (Tied)

N8II - Fixed 1st Place
 WA7JHQ - Fixed 2nd Place

KA3QLF - Mixed 1st Place
 K4EXT - Mixed 2nd Place

DL5AWI - DX 1st Place

Contest - SSB

KM9X - Mobile 1st Place
 WA4JA - Mobile 2nd Place

WY7LL - Fixed 1st Place
 KB9MGI - Fixed 2nd Place

2008 Service Award

KC6AWX
 N8KIE
 W0GXQ

Roadrunner

AA8R N0XYL
 AA9JJ N0ZA
 AB2LS N2OCW
 AB4YZ N4AAT
 AI5P N4CD
 K0ARS N4UJK
 K0GEN N5KGY
 K2HVN N5UZW
 K5GE N6PDB
 K8YJ N7ID
 K8ZZ N8KIE
 KA3QLF N9JF
 KA4TYG N9QPQ
 KA9JAC N9QS
 KB0BA NA7W
 KB6UF NM2L
 KE3VV NX4W
 KI7WO W0GXQ
 KL1V W6TMD
 KM9X W8FNW
 KS5A WA4WQ
 KW1DX WG6X
 N0KV WQ7A



Awards

Randy, AA8R

After having a few adult beverages at the National this year I kind of promised Dave, KU4YM, that I would do a monthly or every other month a article in the RoadRunner about MARAC Awards. My writing skills leave a lot to be desired so if you would, just skip past that and go for the contents. [editor's note: I didn't have to touch this article at all!]

At this year's National I had several people ask if I could check into this or that for them and I said that I would. I know I asked several people to send me an email after the convention, but I don't think I requested that of everyone who had a question/issue. So, I am asking that anyone with a question about their account balance, LC history, missing awards or the Awards program in general, to send me an email or catch me in either the "W5UGD" or the "W6RK" chat room.

Many of the questions/problems that were being asked were about missing LC-1/LC-2 or being credited with a Last County that they shouldn't be. Also, there appears to be some mobiles that have given out a LC and the recipient of that LC did the paper work but the mobile never got the credit for that LC. In some cases, someone else got the credit. In order to correct as many of these errors as we can the individual who submitted the paperwork will need to verify that their LC application was processed correctly by:

- 1) Contacting the mobile to see that they did indeed get the credit
- 2) Providing me with the LC application information and I can check LC History for that mobile.

If a LC application didn't get processed, that LC won't be in the Awards database. I can send you a list of all the LC applications you submitted and were processed, and from that you can check for any omissions or errors.

Next month, "When and how awards are processed during a month".

Member Awards

County Hunter of the Year SSB: N4AAT, Scottie Scott

County Hunter of the Year CW: N9QS, Roy (Silver) Glasscock

Best Net Control SSB: N5UZW, Joe Watkins

Best Net Control CW: W0GXQ, Jerry Mertz

Best Mobile SSB: N4AAT, Scottie Scott

Best Mobile CW: W0GXQ, Jerry Mertz

Best Mobile Team: N0KV & N0DXE, Barry & Patricia Mitchell

Please take time to congratulate these members for a job well done in furthering the advancement of our great hobby of County Hunting.

Ballot Recognition

I would like to congratulate the following stations for receiving recognition from their peer's with at least 10 points or better in vote totals for the entire year. These calls are in order of finish for the year 2009.

BEST NET CONTROL SSB: N5UZW, KZ2P, W8DCD, N4AAT

BEST NET CONTROL CW: W0GXQ, N4CD, NM2L, KB6TAL, N9QS

BEST MOBILE SSB: N4AAT, KL1V, N8KIE, AB4YZ, NX4W, KM9X, WG6X, KB0BA, N4CD

BEST MOBILE CW: W0GXQ, N9JF, N4CD, W9MSE, KL1V, W0QE

BEST TEAM: N0KV/N0DXE, AA9JJ/N9QPQ, KM9X/KB9MGI, KB0BA/N0XYL, KA9JAC/KB9YVT

Lloyd S. Smith – NX4W

MARAC Election Coordinator



New Members

Marac No. State	Call Home	Full Name	Address	City and
County	Phone Number	E Mail Address		
R-4377 Warren Lane	G3NDC	Cliff E Deamer	Gatehouse,The Grove	Stanhope, HA7 4LD U.K.
	02089541309	cliff.g3ndc@btinternet.		

SC Mini

2010 SOUTH CENTRAL MINI

WHEN: Arrive Feb. 11, Depart Feb. 14, 2009

WHERE: Best Western Palm Aire Hotel & Suites,
415 S. International Blvd. at Exp. 83, Weslaco, TX 78596
The hotel is located on Expressway 83 & FM 1015

ROOM RATE: \$64.00 A Night plus tax. Includes free buffet breakfast. (For up to 2 persons)

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. 29. Please reserve before then if possible.

FORUMS: There will be an antenna forum and undetermined others. Contact Barry, W9UCW to schedule yours.

MEETINGS: General Session, CW Ops, Others

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Registration includes name badge, group photo and prize drawing

Single..... \$10.00=\$ _____

OM/YL Couple..... \$15.00=\$ _____

Chuck Wagon Dinner (Thursday night).....# _____ X \$22.50=\$ _____

Big Ranch Style Buffet

Saturday Night Dinner.....# _____ X \$23.50 =\$ _____

Fajita Fiesta includes Grilled beef/Chicken Fajita, Charro beans, Spanish Rice, Shredded Lettuce & Cheese, Tomato, Sour Cream,Pico de Gallo,Dessert &Drink

Total.....(Includes Taxes & Gratuities).....\$ _____

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
21175 FM 2556
Santa Rosa, TX 78593

Phone: 956-636-9161
E-mail: Joycenul@aol.com
Cell: 956-202-3373

Birthdays

Roadrunner - Birthdays	
Current Call	Birthday Date
W1BPT	Aug - 01
K8ZZ	Aug - 01
N5HLG	Aug - 01
AA4GT	Aug - 01
K3TEM	Aug - 01
N5WD	Aug - 01
W7CB	Aug - 01
WA6HBV	Aug - 01
AJ5ZX	Aug - 02
NO3X	Aug - 02
W1EKZ	Aug - 02
N3PYQ	Aug - 03
N9ID	Aug - 03
K0GO	Aug - 03
WC5B	Aug - 03
AE5EA	Aug - 04
K0FG	Aug - 04
KX4XX	Aug - 04
KR0G	Aug - 04
N5WRX	Aug - 04
N2JNE	Aug - 04
N8EMV	Aug - 05
AC4XL	Aug - 05
AB7RW	Aug - 05
NG0T	Aug - 06
N5OHQ	Aug - 06
N9RNG	Aug - 07
KD7RM	Aug - 07
K8ZKJ	Aug - 07
WA1UDI	Aug - 07
AF8CS	Aug - 08
KI6YX	Aug - 08
WN8F	Aug - 08
KB0KX	Aug - 08
KF0LZ	Aug - 08
W7IN	Aug - 08
K9XE	Aug - 09
AA5LM	Aug - 09
KE9OI	Aug - 09
AK4P	Aug - 10

Roadrunner - Birthdays	
Current Call	Birthday Date
W7ZC	Aug - 10
KK0J	Aug - 10
KD0U	Aug - 10
KN4EH	Aug - 10
AA9JY	Aug - 11
AC2J	Aug - 11
WW8O	Aug - 11
KI7SS	Aug - 12
AF0O	Aug - 12
N0BZ	Aug - 12
KA1LSD	Aug - 13
KQ6MN	Aug - 13
NP2C	Aug - 13
AA1VA	Aug - 14
K4YT	Aug - 14
WA0UPL	Aug - 14
KC4OV	Aug - 15
W4QCP	Aug - 15
K0JV	Aug - 16
KV4GO	Aug - 16
WQ7A	Aug - 16
N5QLZ	Aug - 17
K2UPD	Aug - 17
K7NN	Aug - 17
KA4TYG	Aug - 17
KG4NNK	Aug - 17
AC4PY	Aug - 17
KB3FN	Aug - 17
W0FP	Aug - 18
W8PN	Aug - 18
KW7JS	Aug - 18
K9IR	Aug - 18
WA7JHQ	Aug - 19
N4SMH	Aug - 19
WW0G	Aug - 19
WK9O	Aug - 19
AB7CB	Aug - 20
WB4ZXP	Aug - 20
W9HB	Aug - 20
KJ4JC	Aug - 21

Roadrunner - Birthdays	
Current Call	Birthday Date
WA4VCB	Aug - 21
K6BM	Aug - 21
KF8XK	Aug - 21
AD4RE	Aug - 21
W7RIP	Aug - 22
K0NO	Aug - 22
N7MT	Aug - 22
WD4HVZ	Aug - 22
NW6S	Aug - 22
AA8R	Aug - 23
KK0JX	Aug - 23
K7DOL	Aug - 23
KW1DX	Aug - 23
K9HUH	Aug - 23
K6SSD	Aug - 23
N5PB	Aug - 24
KW4V	Aug - 24
KD4HXM	Aug - 24
WW1H	Aug - 24
WT3W	Aug - 24
N0UR	Aug - 24
AA0LV	Aug - 24
W4HR	Aug - 25
W1PX	Aug - 25
W2CC	Aug - 25
N5LP	Aug - 25
KE4UP	Aug - 25
K9DZG	Aug - 25
KB4JAA	Aug - 25
K0CO	Aug - 25
W4SKW	Aug - 25
W0UBT	Aug - 26
N0GAK	Aug - 26
KR5C	Aug - 26
WA4PGM	Aug - 26
NS3U	Aug - 26
WB4VFN	Aug - 26
N0KGX	Aug - 26
W0CML	Aug - 27
N7HT	Aug - 27

Roadrunner - Birthdays	
Current Call	Birthday Date
W8CE	Aug - 27
W4IO	Aug - 28
AG4IF	Aug - 28
KC7JC	Aug - 28
K7WY	Aug - 28
N4USM	Aug - 29
WA4QPD	Aug - 29
W0ETT	Aug - 29
K6NA	Aug - 29
WQ1H	Aug - 29
NR2S	Aug - 29
N9AZI	Aug - 29
NX5Z	Aug - 29
WD5GNX	Aug - 29
KJ8W	Aug - 30
WC8R	Aug - 30
NU7G	Aug - 30
K0UMD	Aug - 30
W8BMZ	Aug - 31
W8DUV	Aug - 31
KI0RD	Aug - 31
K0IG	Aug - 31
W3HZB	Aug - 31
K9FRW	Aug - 31

**Treasurer's Report
31, 2009****July**Funds Balance June 30, 2009 **\$16,816.94**

Income:

Dues	\$584.00
Money Market Interest	\$3.50
Logger Distribution	\$60.00
Awards Manager Income (AA8R)	\$413.00
Awards Manager Income (KC5QCB)	\$0.00
Return of funds from KC5QCB	\$1,200.00
	<u>\$2,260.50</u>

Expenses:

Bank Fee	\$3.50
Fairmont Awards - Plaques	\$465.00
Print Right – Road Runner	\$317.20
Awards Manager Expenses (AA8R)	\$125.70
Awards Manager Expenses (KC5QCB)	\$1,216.30
Contribution to SE Mini	\$300.00
	<u>\$2,427.70</u>

(\$167.20)

Account Balances **\$16,649.74**Checking Account **\$2,072.52**Money Market Account **\$14,577.22****\$16,649.74**

Note:

The following monies are not included in the above:

Awards Chairman's Funds (AA8R)	\$1,200.00
Convention Chairman's Funds - 2009	\$4,000.00



And the Answer Is. . .
Ellen E. Hyatt (KU4YM's XYL)

“Do you have *your* license?” That question is inevitable when married to an Amateur Radio operator. And with Gordon West explaining how much easier it is to enter the world of Amateur Radio now than before FCC changes in 1999, the answer “No” to that question can be quite embarrassing for the person responding.

That person would be me.

For me, sub-bands, frequency, repeater, linear amplifier, electrical insulator, ampere, ohm, etc. are as arcane as Latin terms in the medical field or as esoteric as the fruity bouquet over oak notes we’re supposed to taste in a glass of wine.

However, I will say this: being among Ham Radio operators is a good experience. Having accompanied KU4YM on several Ham Radio occasions, I have noticed how genuine and helpful and supportive Hams are to one another (and not just about coaxial cables and antennae or when it comes to traveling farther so someone else can make the county contact).

Also, Ham Radio is a hobby that provides a means to learn about geography, particularly state-by-state and county-by-county. Side tours, such as the one to Mackinac Island, not only allow for great dining opportunities but also provide historical information about business at places like the Stuart House Museum. On a stop to Mackinac Island library, we locate and purchase for only a dollar a book of poems we remember from the 1960s.

At MARAC conventions—like the one in July to Petoskey, MI— we also hear great stories of Ham radio operators’ childhoods, families, travels. We see Ham talents as master/mistress of ceremony; hear their voices at the Young Americans performance; take with us gifts Hams (or their family members) make for the exchange. Where else are we given a choice of an oven mitt souvenir that reminds us of the shape of lower Michigan?

Time at a Ham Radio event offers as much variety as the hues of blue in waters of Lake Michigan and is as mysteriously memorable as the sky above. Or should that be written as “sky-wave” or something “ionospheric”?

Well, now knowing how awfully I would confuse the airwaves, you’ll be grateful about the “No” answer.

And you thought the 11-year sunspot cycle was causing problems. . . .



July Awards**Awards for the July 2009**

Award Name	To Call
5 Star	N1BY
BINGO II	W0GXQ
Master Platinum	WG6X
Master's Gold	KN4Y
Mobile to Mobile	KB6UF
Ran All State - 1st Time	AA8R
Ran All State - 1st Time	AF3X
Ran All State - 1st Time	W8TAX
Roadrunner	AB4YZ
Roadrunner	AE3Z
Roadrunner	KB6TAL
Roadrunner	KL1V
Roadrunner	N0DXE
Roadrunner	N2OCW
Roadrunner	N4AAT
Roadrunner	N8KIE
Roadrunner	N9QPQ
Roadrunner	NX4W
Roadrunner	W9MSE
Roadrunner	WY7LL
USA - Single Band	AD8W
USA-CW	N9STL
USA-CW	WA5OPO
Worked all Counties - 1st Time - USA- CA	KI0AZ
Worked all Counties - 2nd Time	WD4OIN
Worked all Counties - 5th Time	W9GUY
Worked all Counties - 6thTime	N9STL
Working the Same Mobile in Multiple States	WB9STT

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 25th!

Board of Directors

President: Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, 21175 FM2556, Santa Rosa, TX 78593 1-956-636-9161, joycenul@aol.com

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North Central Director: Cliff Bird, AC0B, 6140 Hwy 194, Saginaw, MN 55779, 218-343-7473, ac0b@arrl.net

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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

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Appointees

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