



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

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



**Volume XL**

**September 2010**

**Number 9**

## **From My Point of View**

Joyce, WB9NUL

**H**ammering, sawing, doors banging....contractor, work crew....confusion abounds at our household. I'm sure it will all look great in the end but what confusion in the mean time. Barry and I are having needed improvements done to our house and property. It did give me the opportunity to help on the county hunter net frequency and that was fun.

I want to thank all of you who took the time to contact your directors and the BOD of MARAC. There is to be a meeting this month and one of the items on the agenda is the award that was withdrawn from the July agenda. Look for the date and time elsewhere in the RoadRunner.

I'm off to the hill country for a few days and spend some time with stitching friends to enjoy my second hobby. Have a safe Labor Day. Those of you who are on the east coast my thoughts are with you as the storms seem to be headed your way. Please stay safe.

Till next month,

73, Joyce



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## Dateline CW

Ed, KN4Y

Things they don't understand will cause a sensation among county hunters.

A new doughnut shop opened down yonder and Gator stopped in and got a carton of white powdered doughnuts with holes. A doughnut and a triple latte are as exciting as that last county for the WBOW. After that moment of latte ecstasy Gator picks up an e-mail off the desk. What is this notice from John, W5UGD?"

"That is a notice of the coming Southeast Mini at Mount Pleasant, South Carolina and before you ask, yes it is in the United States." Gator smiles showing off his white powdered mustache," "When will it be?" I look at the notice, "It is October 11-13." "This year?" "Yes, this year 2010." "Got'cha. "That is the start of a week that is a deviation from past mini's." "Yes Gator the usual starting date of Thursday is on a Monday, the Friday is on a Tuesday, and Saturday night banquet is on Wednesday night, and the Sunday drive home is on a Thursday."

Gator holds his hand up as if stopping traffic as he thinks this over as we enjoy more of the triple latte. I continue, "The mini location is right across the bridge from beautiful and romantic Charleston at the Patriots Point Quality Inn and Suites. Many people enjoy walking across the bridge in the Squirrel Trek." "Why is it called the Squirrel Trek?" "Because the bridge is full of nuts, Got'cha!" We are both laughing as we think about getting the Charleston traffic both coming and going. I was about to click on <http://semini.superhosts.net> to see who has registered when Gator hands me another triple latte.

Gator also hands me another powdered doughnut, "You remember that new no code ham in the valley with the six antennas and is net control on the ARES net." "Yes, nice guy, what made you think of him? "Well he has gotten a girl friend." "How do you know that?" "I noticed tobacco stains down both sides of his truck." There is a loud signal from the radio; it is Norm, W3DYA, mobile in Texas. "Work him Gator. He is using a home brewed flying saucer antenna."

Gator works Norm, "The last time I saw a flying saucer was the time that waitress at the Big Rig truck stop threw it at me when I said she had no class." Norm had e-mailed me a picture of his creation based on design details from Barry, W9UCW. I show it to Gator. "That is neat, are you sure he is not a rejected space alien." I throw the hole from my powered doughnut at Gator.

Gator looks at my Maryland QSO party log, "Wow three QSO's, you been playing with the Morphine pump again?" "No, I think whoever planned the QSO party forgot to tell the Maryland hams, and remember DC is involved." Gator looks at my New Jersey QSO party logging screen, "What happened Dude, you worked no-one." "I listened and listened, heard no station calling NJQP. I bet the last amateur to leave New Jersey actually shut off the lights." We laugh as we enjoy our Latte

I hear Gator's cell phone. "Got to go Dude." He grabs a doughnut and hands me a list of mobiles running on the county hunter's CW frequencies during August. I look at the list; it is obvious the weather has been good. AA1VA, AA9KH, AE3Z, AF3X, AI5P, K0ARS, K2HVN, K3IMC, K4BAI, K4UWH, K4YFH, K8ZZ, K9JWV, KA4RUU, KB6UF, KC3X, KD8HB, KE3VV, KL1V, KN4Y, KW4V, N0KV, N4AAT, N4CD, N4JT, N4PJ, N5XG, NF0N, NM2L, NT2A, NU0Q, VA3XOV, W0BH, W0GXQ, W0MU, W0NAC, W3DQT, W3DYA, W4HSA, W4SIG, W7FEN, W7GQK, W8GEJ, W8JJ, W8MP, W9MSE, W9OA, W0OP, WB2ABD, WB4KZW, WC5D, WD5DXM, WE7G,

There are seven State QSO Parties this month, leading off with Colorado followed by Tennessee, Arkansas, Connecticut, South Carolina, Washington State Salmon Run, and ending in Texas with Norm leading the charge. How many of the 591 counties will be in your log. Before Gator left he said he heard W3DYA, N5NA, K5END, AD5WI are going to operate mobile in the Arkansas QSO party. Then for the county hunters working on their top-list challenge there is the ARRL VHF QSO Party, a good way to get counties on 6-meters when the band is open. Dang, I forgot to tell Gator Dan, N6MJ, was on the team that took bronze in the World Radiosport Team Championships. Gator thinks his dad Darrel, W6TMD, is a cool county hunter. I will get to my Kansas, Hawaii, and Ohio QSO party logs later. It is past nap time.



**2011 National**



*Mark your calendars and save the date to attend,*

*The 43<sup>RD</sup> MARAC National Convention*

*July 6<sup>th</sup> - July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Duluth, MN*

*We have some great tour and forum ideas in the works.*

*Any questions please email:*

*Brian - NX0X or Shari - KB0MHH*

**[Duluth2011@aol.com](mailto:Duluth2011@aol.com)**

*More information will be coming after the first of the year.*

SE Mini

**2010 SE Mini**

- Location:* Quality Inn & Suites; Mount Pleasant, SC  
*Dates:* October 11-13, 2010  
*Directions:* Follow I-26 East until it ends and take exit 220. Follow signs to Mt. Pleasant/Hwy 17 North. Cross Cooper River Bridge and take Coleman Blvd./Hwy 703 exit. On Coleman Blvd/Hwy 703 turn right at first traffic light. Hotel is on the right.  
*Room Rate:* \$99.99 per night plus tax. Call the hotel directly for reservations and mention "amateur radio". The phone number is 800-704-4480. The rate is valid only through September 10<sup>th</sup> - Make your reservations early!  
*Hotel Notes:* There is a 2 night minimum stay, and a one night deposit is required. Cancellations must be done 2 weeks in advance, and all but 25\$ of your deposit will be refunded. Cancellations within 2 weeks will be charged for 2 nights.  
*Parking:* Ample FREE parking, with no overhangs to eat antennas!  
*Activities:* No group activities are planned, but area attractions include Historic Charleston tours, shopping, dining, golfing, plantations, Patriot's Point, The Hunley & Fort Sumter.  
*Dinner:* Buffet Style Dinner- 22\$/person.  
*Registration:* 15\$ for first person, 5\$ each additional person.  
*Website:* More information, including online registration is available at:  
<http://semini.superhosts.net/>

Send registration and fees to:

John M. Hoyt – W5UGD

118 Halifax Rd

Easley, SC 29642

Email: [amicon@amicon.net](mailto:amicon@amicon.net) for additional information

## 2010 SE Mini Registration

Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (to be put on badge):

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Address:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*USA-CA#:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Additional Names/Calls/USA-CA Numbers:*

*Basic Registration:*

15.00

*Additional Registrations*

\_\_\_\_\_ x 5.00

\_\_\_\_\_

*Banquet Tickets*

\_\_\_\_\_ x 22.00

\_\_\_\_\_

**Total**

\_\_\_\_\_



**More National Pix**



CW Ops



YLs

Calendar

September 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 HI qp KS qp OH qp	30	31	1	2	3	4 CO qp
5 TN qp CO qp	6 Labor Dy Sp Labor Day	7	8	9	10 PSK Sp	11 AR qp
12 NA Sp CW	13	14	15	16	17	18 QCWA qp WA Salmon SC qp CT qp
19 QCWA qp WA Salmon SC qp NA Sp ssb	20	21	22	23	24	25 TX qp
26	27	28	29	30	1	2



Special Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 15, 2010 – 0000Z

Agenda will be posted on the MARAC website.

Meeting will be held on the mIRC MARACBOARD Chat Room.

History Happens

Gary, K4EXT


One of my primary CW county suppliers Bob, N4CD likes to use the phrase “so many counties, so little time” in many of his CH News trip reports and articles. In my case, I need to modify that phrase to read “so much history, so little time” and adopt it as my mantra. In other words, I’m happy to report that I’m up to my eyeballs with information and photos which depict the past 40 years of MARAC and County Hunting! Thanks to everyone who has mailed or Emailed goodies to me. Eventually, as much as possible will be posted on the [www.CHarchive.com](http://www.CHarchive.com) website so that everyone can see, remember (in some cases), and enjoy.

Carl, W9OO was kind enough to send me an assortment of convention pics from 1988 through 1995 and says he has more to send me later. Ron, N5MLP Emailed pictures of Kent, KL1V finally finding the secret passageway to Madison County, Texas. Jeffrey, AF3X sent me a slew of county-line pics from some of his recent mobile adventures. And some individual CH’er images made their way into my in-box, including a nice picture of Alan, VK4AAR and his XYL Mee Wah.

Additionally Gene, N4ANV shipped me a large heavy box of complete photo albums which he obtained from Stu, W2PDM containing hundreds of pictures from 1983 through 1990. Gene was also kind enough to identify many of the pictured CH’ers. Thanks again for that extra effort Gene!

So much history, so little time.

On August 6<sup>th</sup> Kent, KL1V transmitted from Murray, Oklahoma. His 3,077<sup>th</sup> county, all SSB, all 20m, all from a rental car. Kent was the 11<sup>th</sup> person to run all counties. Who was the first person to do it you ask? We have to go back in County Hunting history almost a quarter century to November 25, 1986 when Ken, KB7QO ran Polk County, Iowa for his 3,077<sup>th</sup>. That unique feat made for a neat QSL card too (courtesy of KA1JPR) as shown below.



# KB7QO

**KENNETH J. WOSIKA**  
 3413 Mary Ann Avenue  
 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

*First Amateur Radio Operator to transmit from all USA Counties, including Alaska and Hawaii, SSB/Mobile.*

**POLK COUNTY, IOWA**  
 #3077 - November 25, 1986

<b>Mobile Operator of the Year</b>	<b>1986</b>
<b>Mobile Operator of the Year</b>	<b>1987</b>
<b>County Hunter of the Year</b>	<b>1987</b>





**Birthdays**

<b>Roadrunner - Birthdays</b>					
<b>Call</b>	<b>Birthdate</b>				
AD4IA	Sep - 01	N8STF	Sep - 09	WJ9S	Sep - 17
WE8D	Sep - 01	N7WL	Sep - 09	AD7QN	Sep - 17
KK5LC	Sep - 01	KJ7PO	Sep - 09	AK6H	Sep - 17
W1VA	Sep - 01	W5XFM	Sep - 09	WA4CUU	Sep - 17
KQ4KI	Sep - 01	KG7Q	Sep - 09	N4PJ	Sep - 18
LA9SN	Sep - 01	NX0V	Sep - 10	KE3NR	Sep - 18
K6CRA	Sep - 02	K8XF	Sep - 10	W6QE	Sep - 18
AC4GO	Sep - 02	KB5FU	Sep - 10	NX4P	Sep - 18
K1BS	Sep - 02	NW1O	Sep - 10	N8MYC	Sep - 18
K4XI	Sep - 03	W3RWJ	Sep - 10	N5QQ	Sep - 19
WB2GFE	Sep - 03	K9WA	Sep - 11	K5KDG	Sep - 19
WA6GQY	Sep - 03	KB7ZTI	Sep - 11	WB3JDC	Sep - 20
N5ZF	Sep - 03	W0OWY	Sep - 11	NB7B	Sep - 20
N3RM	Sep - 04	WG9A	Sep - 12	KC7OD	Sep - 20
KB7RE	Sep - 04	W5SM	Sep - 12	W9NS	Sep - 21
N9PM	Sep - 04	N8MBW	Sep - 12	KN4CQ	Sep - 21
NN9K	Sep - 04	N5DUQ	Sep - 12	KA1OCL	Sep - 21
W9GUY	Sep - 04	W0MU	Sep - 12	AC4SW	Sep - 21
W6RK	Sep - 04	N9STL	Sep - 12	NN6AA	Sep - 21
KU4MP	Sep - 05	N9PC	Sep - 12	WB7PMZ	Sep - 21
KA0W	Sep - 05	WU7R	Sep - 13	N9BAE	Sep - 22
WA3LVH	Sep - 05	N8RYD	Sep - 13	K1CGI	Sep - 22
WD9HAW	Sep - 05	KD6WW	Sep - 13	N9IHZ	Sep - 22
W3UJT	Sep - 05	WA9QNI	Sep - 14	KL7IFP	Sep - 22
KE5JA	Sep - 06	WA5OPO	Sep - 14	WT6P	Sep - 22
KN4S	Sep - 06	K4NK	Sep - 14	KA6RAT	Sep - 23
W9OO	Sep - 06	N7CYQ	Sep - 15	KR4ZH	Sep - 23
N7MPS	Sep - 06	NE5Y	Sep - 15	N0GUR	Sep - 23
N5NAA	Sep - 07	KG5IZ	Sep - 15	K2UF	Sep - 23
WA2BEG	Sep - 07	KJ4KX	Sep - 15	W3CR	Sep - 23
KN5I	Sep - 07	W3IQ	Sep - 16	KG4FJC	Sep - 24
W9LMT	Sep - 07	K8NI	Sep - 16	KA7JAS	Sep - 24
WX7E	Sep - 08	KF2GP	Sep - 16	AD8W	Sep - 24
N9AC	Sep - 08	WA0LRQ	Sep - 16	KD5YN	Sep - 25
KN5H	Sep - 09	W9CTA	Sep - 16	KA1SF	Sep - 25
KG9HC	Sep - 09	W0IM	Sep - 17	KR4OE	Sep - 25
K4SL	Sep - 09	WM3T	Sep - 17	N7WO	Sep - 25
		K0XT	Sep - 17	N0XYL	Sep - 25
		KG5RJ	Sep - 17	K3VQO	Sep - 25
				AJ0C	Sep - 26
				KB5WY	Sep - 26
				N0UF	Sep - 26
				W5HV	Sep - 26
				K1LH	Sep - 27
				WB0JYB	Sep - 27
				AE2Z	Sep - 27
				W7KFA	Sep - 27
				W8EB	Sep - 27
				KO4EA	Sep - 27
				W7FGD	Sep - 28
				K7GA	Sep - 28
				K9FP	Sep - 28
				NK8P	Sep - 28
				WA2CNJ	Sep - 29
				N5VT	Sep - 29
				W1IBS	Sep - 29
				KC3X	Sep - 29
				KD4RKJ	Sep - 29
				N5KB	Sep - 29
				K0BXF	Sep - 29
				N4RNR	Sep - 29
				WA6OTV	Sep - 29
				N4NX	Sep - 29



**Treasurer's Report  
Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club**

**Treasurer's Report**

**July 31, 2010**

Funds Balance June 30, 2010 **\$16,956.77**

Income:

Membership	\$484.25
Money Market Interest	\$2.62
Logger Distribution	\$105.00
Awards Manager Income	\$866.00

**\$1,457.87**

Expenses:

Awards Manager Expenses	\$780.18
Print Right	\$351.93
(98 units @ \$3.59 x 12 = \$43.09/year)	
Postage (Stamps for Treasurer)	\$44.00
Michigan Mini Contribution	\$300.00
2011 National Convention advance	\$3,000.00
New Awards Manager fund	\$1,500.00
	<b><u>\$4,476.11</u></b>

Account Balances (\$4,518.24)

Checking Account \$823.24

Money Market Account **\$11,615.29**

**\$12,438.53**

Note:

The following monies are not included in the above:

Awards Chairman's Funds	\$1,500.00
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Awards

Roadrunner Issued Per Month						
Call	Date	Count		Award		Number
K8ZZ	8/20/2010	Last County	Count 225	Last County	Count 225	# 82
KM9X	8/5/2010	Last County	Count 275	Last County	Count 275	# 62
KB9YVT	8/20/2010	Last County	Count 50	Last County	Count 50	# 323
W3CR	8/19/2010	Last County	Count 375	Last County	Count 375	# 38
W0GXQ	8/19/2010	Last County	Count 500	Last County	Count 500	# 30
AI5P	8/20/2010	Last County	Count 850	Last County	Count 850	# 5
KA9JAC	8/20/2010	Last County	Count 125	Last County	Count 125	# 165
W7FEN	8/20/2010	Last County	Count 475	Last County	Count 475	# 33
K5TVC	8/20/2010	Last County	Count 75	Last County	Count 75	# 246
N0KV	8/20/2010	Last County	Count 200	Last County	Count 200	# 100
KL1V	8/20/2010	Last County	Count 850	Last County	Count 850	# 6
WY7ML	8/20/2010	Last County	Count 25	Last County	Count 25	# 486
AA9JJ	8/20/2010	Last County	Count 750	Last County	Count 750	# 12
N5UZW	8/20/2010	Last County	Count 150	Last County	Count 150	# 150
K0ARS	8/20/2010	Last County	Count 175	Last County	Count 175	# 119
W0GXQ	8/19/2010	Last County	Count 500	Last County	Count 500	# 31
<b>New Numbers</b>						
KW4V	7/31/2010			5 Star		# 47
KA9JAC	8/5/2010			Master's Gold		# 43
AD8W	7/31/2010			Master's Gold		# 41
KL1V	8/4/2010			Master's Gold		# 42
KD4HXM	8/7/2010			Master's Gold		# 44
AB4YZ	8/26/2010			K PREFIX		# 20
KL1V	8/6/2010			RAN ALL USA		# 11
KE3VV	8/26/2010			USA-CW		# 114
W4YDY	8/14/2010			USA-CW		# 113
K4AMC	8/14/2010			USA-CW		# 112
WY7LL	8/11/2010			BINGO		# 319
KB9MGI	8/14/2010			BINGO		# 320
K9AAA	8/15/2010			BINGO		# 321
KD4HXM	7/16/2010			BINGO II		# 71
N9QS	7/30/2010			BINGO IV		# 5
KE0AY	7/23/2010			Worked all Counties - 2nd Time		# 397
W4YDY	7/22/2010			Worked all Counties - 4th Time		# 148
WB0CQO	7/16/2010			Worked all Counties - 5th Time		# 98
NG9L	8/4/2010			Worked all Counties - 6th Time		# 36
N2OCW	8/16/2010			MASTER PLATINUM		# 8
N4AAT	7/27/2010			USA CALL SIGN COMBO 2x1		# 3
KC3X	8/16/2010			USA CALL SIGN COMBO 1x3		# 7

## FS Update

# An Update for Flying Saucer Resonator Builders

By Barry, W9UCW

Requests for the CD detailing the step-by-step building details continue to come in. Meanwhile, several persons have reported some progress getting started. By far, the person reporting the greatest success and useful suggestions and data is Norm, W3DYA. The majority of this update comes from things Norm has run into in his work on the resonators. W3DYA now has made two sets of the resonators and plans more. Norm says he plans to run the antenna in the Arkansas QSO party.

Here is a list of findings, suggestions and ideas that have arisen, mainly due to Norm's work. We have kept in close touch throughout his project. I began calling his regular e-Mails "The Daily UFO Report." He started in mid-July.

- Look for places on the internet where you can buy #18 enameled copper magnet wire, say 200 feet, which is available rather than the big roll from McMaster-Carr.
- Consider sharing some parts with other builders where minimum quantities leave left-overs.
- If you are building your resonators for only CW, you might want to start with an extra 10% coil winding and/or 10% longer hat wires. Even if you're not doing only CW, starting that way would make any necessary changes easier.
- The .065" walled, 1/2 inch O.D. aluminum tubing is not recommended. Norm said he could easily strip the threads. You can find .083" wall tubing at [www.OnlineMetals.com](http://www.OnlineMetals.com).
- Actually, 1/8" thick sheet PVC is strong enough for 10 through 80 meter resonators.
- Using GE silicone caulk to seal the resonators from rain moves the frequency down a long way. Using various "liquid tape" brands moves it down too, but not as far. Some other compounds have just arrived and will be tested and reported upon later. See other comments on this subject below.

Here are some suggestions directly from Norm, W3DYA.

- Don't solder lugs at end of the coil winding. Just crimp on the lug. If SWR is OK, you can solder later. Or just bend the wire around the bolt and add the lug when SWR is OK. Soldering is a waste of time until you get the right SWR.
- Don't put the nuts on until everything else is finished.
- Use .083" wall thickness on the aluminum tubing ([www.onlinemetals.com](http://www.onlinemetals.com)). .065" does not make deep enough threads and result is unstable and strips easily. I found adding a drop (or two) of oil on the cutter makes threading the .083" tubing easier. Didn't need oil when I threaded the .065" tubing.
- I used 1.5" long brass studs instead of 1.25" specified by Barry. Not sure if it makes things stronger with the .083" tubing. But I like it.
- I added star washers (thinner than lock washers) below and above the resonators, thinking it might make for a tighter connection. I did not do that where it connected to the Hustler 54" mast, since there isn't much extra thread available. Caution: the star washer can turn the center lug, so you have to be sure to hold it in position when tightening the connecting tubing. A lock washer probably wouldn't do that (I haven't tried one yet).



- I got solder lugs that are crimp-ons, non-insulated. I wanted the flat lugs with just a hole for attaching the coil wire. I used the crimp-ons, but had to finagle the position on the 3" forms so it didn't project into the coil winding area. The small crimp-ons work OK for the outside winding. But flat ones would have been better. They are available on the internet I found out later, but I don't remember the URL. They sure were hard to find, and none at all in Tyler.
- For the form pattern I used Barry's suggestion and bought a package of 10 Office Max 8.5" x 11" labels. They worked great and cleaned off easily. They're expensive compared to paper and glue, {but they work very well}.
- I found Barry's suggestion of using a bolt to hold the form so you can turn it when winding the coil wire was much better than holding the form and winding the wire (after I did several this way!).
- TUNING: I found very little (if any) interaction among the resonators (with 6" spacing) than I expected; that is 10M through 40M. Did not mount or tune the 80M yet. The effect of removing 1/7 of a turn was almost predictable with some practice. It was different on each band, of course, but consistent on a band. I figure I might need to adjust the hat wires in the field since WX and bugs can alter the SWR.
- When drilling the form, wear a good glove on the hand holding the form.

Norm decided to try the suggested alternate mounting idea on the CD to avoid making separate 6" pieces of mast. He ordered nylon collars from McMaster-Carr that come with a stainless steel set screw. (Item #60475K72, 1/2 inch bore, 1 inch O.D., 7/16" thick. @ \$3.11) He is still testing various glues and having reasonable luck with J-B Weld. Considering the problems with glue, I suggested making the collars and putting one above and below each resonator in the following in an e-mail.

First of all, you can buy nylon "hollow rod", five feet long, with the same dimensions as the collars. It's McMaster-Carr #8628K65... about \$20 but it might be cheaper at US Plastic. I figure you could cut about 100 collars from one length.

Anyway, a guy could slice off lots of collars, drill and tap them for #10 in two places. One collar uses set screws and is placed below the resonator on the mast. On the collar above the resonator use a set screw in one hole and a Phillips pan head screw in the other that has a nut and star washer put on before it goes in the collar. The screw should be 3/4 inch long, 18-8 stainless steel and the star should be SS also.

The screws could be tightened to lock the resonator in place, then the inner wire of the coil with a spade lug could be attached between the nut and screw head to connect the resonator to the mast. This kind of mounting would allow any spacing on any standard 1/2 inch diameter mast.

We have been discussing the problems associated with frequency change due to heavy rain, application of sealants to prevent that change and other related trials and tribulations. I sent Norm this note concerning the issue.

I spent some time (stole some time) yesterday and reworked my stack of FS resonators to get them all on frequency. I had to remove wire from 4 lobes on 10 and 15, the only two in the stack that I had sealed with silicone caulk. The caulk was difficult to apply, looked awful and moved the center frequency down 1 MHz. All that and water still affected the loading.

As I worked on the job, it occurred to me that the ultimate solution may be to leave them unsealed, get them tuned properly,

and put a small autotuner in line for rainy WX running or other short term anomalies like a special frequency excursion.

One might ask “If I am going to do that, why not just use a simple whip and let the tuner take care of the whole thing.” The answer, of course, is that such a setup is horribly inefficient compared to the top-loaded arrangement. It would be like going from 100 watts down to from 1 to 10 watts, depending on the band in question.

There has been discussion about the 40 meter Flying Saucer resonator heating a bit when a key-down for a minute occurs. Also, when that happens, the center frequency shifts slightly. I commented thusly:

I’m not sure what to say about that... neither the heat or the frequency movement is expected as far as I’m concerned. As soon as all the dust has cleared and I can re-setup my test layout, I’ll work on it and make some current measurements.

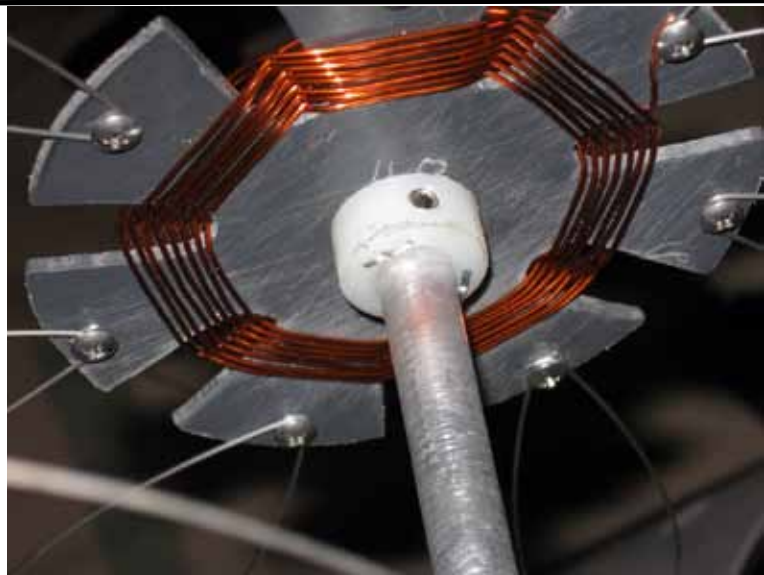
It turns out that 40 meters has been an area of the HF spectrum that many types of resonators on our typical 6-8 foot masts suffer some degree of self resonance in the coil. It’s a matter of the inductance and the turn-to-turn capacitance coming out to combine and resonate near 7 MHz. I remember one old design of Hustler 40m resonator that would burn up with a 100 watt carrier. I surely didn’t think it would happen on these resonator coils because there’s so much less inductance. On the other hand, there’s lots less turn-to-turn capacitance also. We’ll see.

BTW, another thought I had about experiences with center frequency changes is that whatever is in the center of the resonator of a conducting type material will somewhat affect the inductance of the coil. Changes in the amount of aluminum, brass or steel (iron) will move the frequency some small amount. I did no experiments dealing with that. Aluminum and particularly brass will reduce the inductance, moving the frequency up. Ferrous material will increase the inductance and be rather lossy compared to the others. Luckily, (by design) the coil is quite far from the metal in the center, so the effect will be minimal. Certainly, the best deal would be the use of non-metallic collars, no internal studs, and just the aluminum mast.

Well, that’s all for now. If you have material to pass on to other builders or unanswered questions, please let me know. Thanks and 73, Barry [W9UCW@aol.com](mailto:W9UCW@aol.com)



W3DYA's Stack



Nylon Collar



Norm's Resonators



*The County Line Roadrunner*  
**MARAC Secretary**  
**2690 Bohicket Rd**  
**Johns Island, SC 29455**

*“A Road Runner Is A Very Fast Bird”*

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

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