



THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

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From My Point of View

Joyce, WB9NUL

Only one more month and we'll be at the Nat'l Convention. Barry and I are looking forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones. Phil and Barbara with helpers have put together a fun filled gathering for us. The programs alone look interesting and the tours are fantastic.

I have been on the air more than usual. Seems I have a bad knee and we're working to get it fixed. Will know in about a week as to what the Doctor and I decide to do to improve it. More on that subject later.

The weather here has been hot for this time of year. Temperatures usually run in the 80's but all this month it has be mid to high 90's! It seems we went from winter to summer and forgot spring.

Been a quiet month with not much news....so have a great summer and see some of you in July.

73, Joyce



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Dateline CW

ED, KN4Y

A CW county hunter operator never takes a nap after running a county line.

I got back from the Memorial Day reflections and decided to check my eQSL file. I started completing the sequence when Gator comes into the radio shack with two lattes, “What you doing Dude and why the sad face. This latte should cheer you up.” “I am checking and approving eQSL’s, and I read yesterday that my Hee Haw idol Goober Pyle has gone to the country home in the sky.” “Hee Haw Who?” I sip my latte and change the subject. “Did you see what we did in the Florida QSO party and had you not done so many quality control sampling of ethanol batches you could have driven on Sunday, you need to learn to spit. This could have been a record FQP for us.” “I am sorry Dude, after the first quality control sample I lost track of time. What did we, I mean you do.” Gator fakes remorse.

I read from my notes, “We logged 1211 QSO’s and covered 719 miles and ran 25 North Florida counties, four less than last year. This year 15-meters was open but I never heard a peep on ten meters.” Gator turns on the computer, “I want to see how you did in the 10-10 CW contest. I see Friday and Saturday were QSO productive but Sunday sucked. I also see you got four new counties on ten meters.” I sip more latte, “By the way what did you hear about the Mini in Michigan? I did not see anything on the CNN news.” Gator laughs, “Sorry, what happens in Michigan stays in Michigan.” “I know Ed.” “Good for you.” Suddenly from the radio speaker is heard, CH QNF? Gator sends GA. We listen to hear who is running.

Gator is looking at the county hunter’s forum and yells, “Look at this list of county hunters going to the MARAC convention. Where is it this year?” “It is in Vancouver, Washington.” “Don’t jive me Dude, Vancouver is in Canada.” “Go to the MARAC web site and see for yourself.” Gator sits quietly and we sip our latte, Silence means I was right. Gator breaks the silence, “Dude you have worked Jim, AD1C, have you not.” “Yes I have worked Jim on all bands and during all kinds of weather, why do you ask.” “He is now in the CQ Hall of Fame.” “That is an excellent choice.” “What time are we leaving for the AIQP?” “Early.” “I will be ready.” “No ethanol quality control work.” “Nope.”

Gator changes the subject, “I see the gasoline generator setting on the deck, something wrong,” “Nope, hurricane season has started and I just want to make sure it runs.” “Good idea Dude.” Gators cell phone goes off, “Got to go Dude, there is a problem with the motor controlled gate.” He is gone faster than an enteric-coated aspirin. I notice he has a new bumper sticker that reads, Psalm 109:8. I make a note to ask him what it means, but it might be better not knowing.

The printer stops and I look at the print out, it is a list of stations heard during May on the CW county hunter’s call frequencies: AA8R, AB7RW, AF3X, AI5P, K0FG, K2HVN, K2RP, K3IMC, K4YT, K7S, K7TM, K8ZZ, K9IWV, KA3DRO, KA4RRU, KB6UF, KC7YE, KE3VV, KE7NO, KS5A, N0KV, N2OO, N4CD, N4JT, N4PJ, N7IV, N7VS, ND9M, NI7R, NM2L, NN9K, NT7R, W0BH, W0EAR, W0ETT, W0GXQ, W0MU, W0NAC, W3DYA, W4SIG, W7FEN, WA3XOV, WB4KZW, and WB4KZW,

I look at the June contest calendar and see that the big event is the ARRL field day. I will be operating CW for the Sportsman’s Paradise ARC using the club call K4WAK. I also plan to operate mobile in the

67 county Alabama QSO party. There is also, I could not verify, the West Virginia QSO party with 55 counties up for grabs. Want to try 6-meters, try the ARRL VHF QSO party. You have a low band itch, then scratch the itch by operating in the Stew Perry warm up contest. If you have the urge to work some NS, NB, PEI Canada areas, try the Maritime QSO party. Darn, I forgot to tell Gator I operated low power, only on 10-meters in the CQ WW WPX contest. I made 200 QSO's and 146 prefixes. Nap time.



New Members

<u>MARAC Number</u>	<u>Callsign</u>	<u>Name</u>
R4503	KB7RUQ	James Fisher
R4504	K2WJ	John Hults
R4505	AI0B	Gregory Ross
R4506	AB1OC	Fred Kemmerer
R4507	AB1QB	Anita Kemmerer
R4508	K1TW	Thomas Walsh



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 the payment of dues and valid membership application by the MARAC Secretary. Those individuals maintaining uninterrupted membership status are not restricted from nominating or voting in the current month.

BALLOT RECOGNITION

I would like to congratulate the following stations for receiving recognition from their peer's and votes in the 3rd quarter award voting: (no particular order). Only stations receiving 3 points or more are listed.

NET CONTROL SSB: AB7NK, KZ2P, N5UZW, N4AAT

NET CONTROL CW: NM2L, W0GXQ

BEST MOBILE SSB: AA0TT, N5UZW, WQ7A, W4SIG, N4AAT, AB7NK

BEST MOBILE CW: W4SIG, W0GXQ, K8ZZ, N4CW, N9JF

BEST TEAM: N0KV/N0DXE, KB0BA/N0XYL, AA9JJ/N9QPQ, AB7NK/K7SEN

SSB CHOTY WY7LL Nominated by Bob – KC6AWX

**Lightning Leo Bingham
WY7LL**

I was licensed in 1984 and started county hunting in 1985. I received my 1st Star in April 2009. I have served as Vice President of the Northeast Wyoming Amateur Radio Association for four terms. Designed the association's logo, jackets & vests. I am a Volunteer Examiner with the ARRL and W5YI. I have served on the MARAC Awards Committee for the last few years and have helped design some of the newer award plaques and certificates. I produced the County Hunting basics video, which can be viewed on the County Hunter Dot Com web site. I am a team member of Contest Station WY7SS. I have been MARAC Vice President for the last two years (and just reelected for another term). I am a retired UPS driver with 25 years of service. Work, when called, as a reserve deputy for Campbell County Wyoming Sheriff's Dept. since 1989. Certified in many aspects of Law Enforcement and Search & Rescue. FEMA certified Public Information Officer. Certified SCUBA diver and "certified fishing fanatic". Some of my ham radio accomplishments can be seen in detail on QRZ dot com.

I did not receive any nominations for CW CHOTY

It has been a busy summer for me so far with finishing up my job here in Alaska and starting to transition to being an orchard farmer in Idaho. I have about 9 months left up here before I permanently move to Idaho and most of this summer I will be commuting back and forth to Idaho every 2 weeks working both jobs. So I won't be on the radio much as I will be dismantling and packing the radios for shipment to the farm. Hope to see as many as can make it to the national convention!

MARAC 4th Quarter Award Voting
April – June, Also Voting for County Hunter of the Year

Voting will be open from June 1st through June 15th for the best net control, mobile and team awards. The reason behind short voting period is because the awards manager needs time to order the awards and have them available for the national convention. The easiest way to place your vote is at the MARAC web site <http://www.marac.org/elections/> and all you will need to enter on the sign in page is your call sign and your **“election key”**. If you have lost or do not know your key then enter your callsign and then click on the large button below to request your key. The key will be immediately emailed to your email address of record. You may also send me your vote via regular mail. I must receive the ballot by the closing date of the voting window. Please include your callsign, MARAC membership and key numbers along with your choices for each class to my address listed below.

A vote for 1st choice is awarded 2 points and 2nd choice is awarded 1 point. **Please do not vote for the same call for both choices.** Of course any choices can be left blank.

Best Net Control SSB: 1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____

Best Net Control CW: 1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____

Best Mobile SSB: 1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____

Best Mobile CW: 1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____

Best Mobile Team: 1st Choice _____ / _____
2nd Choice _____ / _____

County Hunter of the Year SSB _____

WY7LL

Choice for SSB _____

Your call sign: _____ MARAC # or Election Key _____

Kent Reinke – KL1V
MARAC Election Coordinator
PO BOX 215
Valdez, Alaska 99686-0215



MARAC 44th Convention

Phil, AB7RW

There are still plenty of rooms available at the Red Lion Inn here in Vancouver Washington. The days are flying past us. Don't wait until the cut-off passes before you make your reservation at the low price of \$85.95. Other choices are available at additional costs. Call 1-800-733-5466 to make a reservation, and be sure to let them know you are with MARAC. The last day for this price is Wednesday 20 June 2012. The Red Lion sits alongside the Columbia River. The hospitality room has a huge veranda where you can sit, get sun tanned and watch the boats on the river.

If you have not attended a MARAC convention before, you will want to make this your first one. After the first one you will be hooked. This is your chance to meet the people with people whom you make contacts. Come and meet some highly decorated County Hunters AA9JJ and N9QPQ. Then there is N4CD, another highly decorated County Hunter who has transmitted from all 3077 counties and is on the way to repeating this feat. There are others signed up, but you need to come and meet them yourself. I am sure you will want to meet and chat with Ted Melinosky K1BV. You recognize that name if you have turned in your contact list for a USA-CA number. Ted is the person who verifies your county contact listing for CQ Magazine which issues you a USA-CA number and sends you a beautiful 21 inch long certificate.

Don't forget to sign up for the tours. That is a separate registration form that goes direct to Carole Breck in Portland. The trip to see the Spruce Goose is well worth the time and money. There is also an SR-71 sitting next to the Spruce Goose. This is the well known spy plane similar to the one Gary Powers was shot down in over Russia. Besides you can sit back and enjoy the beautiful GREEN scenery out this way. Barbara and I made a trip to Tucson. It was very enjoyable, but on the return trip, once we were west of the Cascade Range, everything is bright green. That is why Washington is the Evergreen State.

If you arrive on 4 July, we will troop up the street to see the fireworks. Vancouver has an all day affair in Waterfront Park. There is little or no parking in the area. Different entertainment is provided each hour. I will find out the walking route as well as the availability of close in parking. It is also televised on a Portland TV station; also, you can stay in your hotel room, relax and watch the fireworks.

44TH ANNUAL MARAC NATIONAL CONVENTION

4 JULY – 7 JULY 2012 - VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON

(Deadline for Early Registration Prize Drawing is May 1, 2012)

Name: (First, Last, and Callsign)**Address:****City:****State:****ZIP Code:****E-MAIL address or phone number:****ADDITIONAL NAME BADGES: \$5.00 EACH**

Name:	Callsign:	USA-CA#	X \$5.00	Total \$
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Name:	Callsign:	USA-CA#	X \$5.00	Total \$
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Name:	Callsign:	USA-CA#	X \$5.00	Total \$
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(Attach additional sheet listing names)			X \$5.00	Total \$
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REGISTRATION: Includes 1 badge, 1 prize ticket, 1 cash ticket, e-mailed photos \$35.00**Wednesday July 4th Check-In****Thursday July 5th Tours listed separately under Events**

BBQ at Red Lion Hotel	# of meals	X	\$32.00	Total \$
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Friday July 6th Tours listed separately under Events

Saturday July 7th Banquet	Chicken Monterey	# of meals	X	\$43.00	Total \$
	Flat Iron Steak	# of meals	X	\$43.00	Total \$
	Char Grilled Salmon	# of meals	X	\$43.00	Total \$

PRIZE TICKETS:

Prize – Single Tickets	# of tickets	X Price - \$1.00	Total - \$
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Prize – Book of 12 Tickets	# of books	X Price - \$10.00	Total - \$
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Cash – Single Tickets	# of tickets	X Price - \$1.00	Total - \$
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Cash – Book of 12 Tickets	# of books	X Price - \$10.00	Total - \$
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PHOTOGRAPHS:

GROUP	# of photos	X Price - \$5.00 if via USPS	Total - \$
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YL	# of photos	X Price - \$5.00 if via USPS	Total - \$
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USA-CA	# of photos	X Price - \$5.00 if via USPS	Total - \$
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CW	# of photos	X Price - \$5.00 if via USPS	Total - \$
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GRAND TOTAL**\$**

Mail Registration / Check to:
Phil Yasson AB7RW – MARAC #44
13208 NE 5TH Avenue
Vancouver, WA 98685-2679
Visit hotel website for info about accommodations: Google: Red Lion at the Quay Vancouver

Hotel Reservations: Call (360) 694-8341
Mention MARAC Convention
Name, Address, etc.
ROOM RATE Guaranteed until 6/20/2012

MARAC COUNTY HUNTERS
2012 SCENIC TOUR PROGRAM PORTLAND
REGISTRATION FORM

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2012

All Tours Depart: from: Red Lion at the Quay Main Lobby

Please arrive 15 minutes prior to scheduled departure time listed below.

All tours include: Motorcoach Transportation, Professional Tour Guide, Tour Narration, Attraction Admissions/Fees and meals (gratuity included) as noted in tour description. Note: Driver and Tour Guide Gratuities are not included, but welcomed

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM WITH PAYMENT TO:
MARAC County Hunters Tour Registration
c/o Carole Breck Destination Management
47 Eagle Crest Drive, Suite 46
Lake Oswego, OR 97035

Registration Information:

- Registrations must be received by JUNE 5, 2012 to ensure participation in the tours of your choice. Registrations are honored on a first-come, first-serve, space available basis.
- We encourage you to sign up in advance. TOURS **WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE ON-SITE.**
- Full Payment must accompany registration.
- Check or Money Order Payments are accepted in US\$ Funds drawn on US Banks only.
- A \$32.00 (US\$ Funds) fee will be charged for returned checks.
- All children must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.
- An **E-mail confirmation** will be sent to you once it is determined the minimum participation for your selected tour(s) has been met and at that time your check will be processed. Your tour guide will also have a list of participants on the day of the tour. **(Be sure to provide your e-mail address in the space provided.)**
- **Cancellation:** No refunds after June 5, 2012. Refunds minus a \$5.00 handling fee will be made only if written notice is received prior to June 5, 2012.
- Individual Tours may be canceled if the minimum per tour guarantee of 30, noted in the description for each tour, is not met. In this event your money will be refunded in full AFTER the Reunion.
- Carole Breck Destination Management reserves the right to alter or amend the itinerary or change the attraction order, should circumstances beyond our control arise to necessitate these changes.
- For special accessibility needs, dietary considerations and additional information, call Carole Breck Destination Management: 503-699-9841, or e-mail cbreckdm@aol.com

KEEP A COPY OF THIS REGISTRATION FOR YOUR RECORDS

THURSDAY, JULY 5, 2012

	<u>Time</u>	<u>Tour</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>\$/pp</u>	
#1	8:00 am.-	CITY	_____	@ US\$32.00 = \$	_____
	11:00 a.m.	HIGHLIGHTS			
#2	12:30 a.m. -	GORGE	_____	@ US\$33.00 = \$	_____
	5:00 p.m.	HIGHLIGHTS			

FRIDAY, JULY 6, 2012

#2	9:00 a.m.-	EVERGREEN	_____	@ US\$64.00 = \$	_____
	3:30 p.m.	AVIATION MUSEUM			

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED US\$ _____

Please Complete the following{ **(PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY)**

Name _____
Spouse/ Guest Name(s) _____
Address _____
City _____
State/Country _____
Zip Code/ Country Code _____
E-Mail Address _____
Daytime Phone _____

- Payment must accompany registration
- Make Checks or Money Orders Payable US\$ Funds on US Banks to: **"Carole Breck Destination Management"**

Each Tour Participant is required to read and sign the following waiver prior to participation in all tours.

LIABILITY WAIVER

In consideration of Carole Breck Destination Management's planning and coordination of these tours/activities, I/we do hereby release and discharge forever, and by these presents, do for ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators and assigns release and discharge forever, Carole Breck Destination Management, their subsidiaries and affiliates, and their officers, directors, agents and employees, from any liability, direct and indirect, and all claims, demands, damages, actions, causes of actions, or suits at law or in equity because of matters, incidents or things done, omitted or suffered to be done by anyone, which may hereafter arise, directly or indirectly, from or out of participation in program tours/activities. I/we also agree not to allow any other individual to participate in my/our place(s) without prior notification to Carole Breck Destination Management.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____



(Note: Parent or Legal Guardian must sign for children and note child's name)

TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

July 5 & 6, 2012

CAROLE BRECK DESTINATION MANAGEMENT

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THURSDAY JULY 5, 2012

CITY OF ROSES HIGHLIGHTS TOUR

8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

\$32.00/pp (30 minimum guarantee)

Portland, is an intimate city with short blocks, elegant parks, bridges, artwork, numerous fountains, intriguing architecture and fantastic views! Your tour guide will share Portland's rich history as this scenic windshield tour travels along Tom McCall Waterfront Park, on the Willamette River; through the Skidmore/Old Town Historic District; Chinatown; and City Center. Sites include: the FORECOURT FOUNTAIN where 13,000 gallons of water per minute cascade through a series of terraces and platforms suggesting the Northwest's abundant waterfalls; PIONEER COURTHOUSE SQUARE, a public square often referred to as the city's "living room;" and glimpse of PORTLAND'S CULTURAL DISTRICT which houses the Oregon Historical Society, Portland Art Museum, and Portland Center for the Performing Arts. From downtown we'll travel above the city into Washington Park to the acclaimed 4.5 acre INTERNATIONAL ROSE TEST GARDEN, recognized as the oldest established rose test garden in the United States. Stop and smell the roses and feast your eyes on a sea of color and over 10,000 roses and 600 varieties.

Tour Includes: Restroom Equipped Motorcoach Transportation using biodiesel, Professional Tour Guide; Narrated Tour; and Carole Breck Destination Management Services-Custom tour design, and all vendor arrangements, scheduling, contracting and accounting. Customary Driver Gratuity Not Included, But Welcomed.

Carole Breck Destination Management

Tours, Activities, Events, Transportation and Consulting

47 Eagle Crest Drive, Suite 46 • Lake Oswego, OR 97035 • Phone: 503-699-9841 • Carole@cbreckdm.com
www.cbreckdm.com

TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

THURSDAY, JULY 5, 2012

GORGE HIGHLIGHTS Multnomah Falls & Bonneville Dam

12:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

\$33.00/pp (30 minimum guarantee)

Experience the grandeur of the Columbia River Gorge, and discover the ecology and history of one of the world's most magnificent landscapes as we travel along the Columbia River and section of the scenic Old Columbia River Gorge Highway past WAHKEENA FALLS, a Yakima Indian word meaning "most beautiful." Then Stopping at MULTNOMAH FALLS, the most spectacular of the waterfalls, and fourth highest in the United States plummeting 620'. View an example of Cascadian Architecture, the historic Multnomah Falls Lodge. Explore the falls, visiting the gift shop, interpretive center, and taking a short walk up the paved trail to the Simon Benson Bridge or just stand at the base of the falls and revel in their splendor. Then continuing on past 176' HORSETAIL FALLS as we motor on to BONNEVILLE DAM, the first of eight federal locks and dams on the Columbia and Snake Rivers that produces "over one million kilowatts, enough to supply power needs of nearly 500,000 homes a year." See fish migrating through underwater fishways, find out how the Dam works, and make other discoveries about ships that navigate the river. Travel back to Portland along the mighty Columbia River all on today's GORGE HIGHLIGHTS ADVENTURE! Bonneville Dam donations welcomed at attendees discretion.

Tour Includes: Restroom equipped Motorcoach Transportation using biodiesel; Professional Tour Guide; Narrated Tour; bottled water; and Carole Breck Destination Management Services-Custom tour design, and all vendor arrangements, scheduling, contracting and accounting. Customary Driver Gratuity not included, but welcomed.

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TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

FRIDAY JULY 6, 2012

EVERGREEN AVIATION MUSEUM ADVENTURE

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

\$64.00pp (30 minimum guarantee)

Join your professional tour guide for a jaunt by luxury motorcoach through the fertile Willamette Valley countryside to the EVERGREEN AVIATION MUSEUM, home of the Spruce Goose. Explore the Howard Hughes "Flying Boat," and a diverse collection of over forty vintage aircraft from 1903 to the jet age, "exhibits that celebrate the lives of innovators, pilots, and veterans who courageously pioneered flight in these remarkable machines." Enjoy a box lunch at the museum. All on today's EVERGREEN AVIATION MUSEUM ADVENTURE!

Tour Includes: Restroom-equipped Motorcoach Transportation using biodiesel, Professional Tour Guide, Narrated Tour, Evergreen Aviation Museum Admission; Box Lunch and beverage; bottled water; and Carole Breck Destination Management Services-Custom tour design, and all vendor arrangements, scheduling, contracting and accounting. Gratuities for the Guide and Driver are not included, but are welcomed

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www.cbreckdm.com

History Happens

Gary, K4EXT

I want to share a very nice email in response to last month's History Happens article/bio on Ralph, WB4FFV ... so here goes:

"The first time I ever talked to Ralph WB4FFV I thought 'Wow, he sounds like some great big, gruff old truck driver!' Well, by now, we all know the difference. Ralph is one of the nicest and kindest gentleman a person could ever meet.

"I knew that he had been licensed at about the same time that I had been because my first ham license was WB4FRN from Va. Beach, Va. 1967 and sure enough, Ralph was a career Army Sergeant at the time and stationed somewhere down south ... and that was back in the day when you got a call sign from the area in which you lived.

"I worked Ralph many times over the years with him driving his big-rig around the country. One night (it seems a long time ago) my wife and I were visiting our oldest son Brad (K0DBK) and his family in St. Paul, Minnesota. I was working on the 20 meter CHN when I heard Ralph come on and he seemed pretty loud so, I broke in and ask him where he was and he said he was on the Interstate coming around the south side of Minneapolis. I asked him where he was headed and he said that he was going to a particular truck stop, which happened to be just about 3 miles from my son's house.

"I hollered at Brad and asked him if he knew where this truck stop was and he said yes, just down the road. We jumped in my truck and headed for the truck stop. I asked Ralph what he was driving and he tried to tell us and said that he would meet us out in front of his truck but by that time, we were driving into the truck stop and headed up along the long line of trucks. We got about half way up the line of trucks and standing in front of this big, huge truck is this little guy about 5 feet tall. I pulled up beside him and said 'Are you Ralph?!'

"That was the start of one of the greatest friendships I have ever had in my life. We have been out to Iowa several times to stop and visit with Ralph and Angela and always are treated with great respect and friendship. I don't know for sure how many counties that I ever gave to Ralph but it seems like half of my counties for the first time were from Ralph, although I knew they weren't. When he got down to within a gun shot of finishing up, I would have driven half way across the country to help him out and that's exactly what the county hunting community did for Ralph. Thanks for the friendship and the great memories Ralph ... from Don, AE3Z."

Great story ... thanks Don! Now it's time for a new County Hunter bio for History Happens, and this month we have a good one that Percy, KA1JPR got Bob, KC1NA to write:

"I first got involved with ham radio way back when (1950's). My uncle, then K1RGJ now K1FL, and I built a Hallicrafter kit transmitter and receiver. Later he went to a home-brew AM rig running a pair of 813's modulated by a pair of 807's and I spent many hours with him on the air. I started working towards my license, but reached high school age and developed other interests.

"Minor radio related interested returned in the 1972-1974 time frame when I volunteered at the MARS

Radio Station at Lajes Field, Azore Islands, Portugal. I was reassigned stateside and lost interest again. Time passed and I was eventually assigned to England where KF7SG peaked my interest again and I pursued a British license, first licensed as G7CCY and then G0MXK. There were US examiners available and I tested for my US license and became KB2GMV and eventually KC1NA. Reassigned stateside, we drove from Maine to CA via FL running 2 meters all the way. We stopped in AZ and visited KF7SG and worked some stations on HF with his equipment, including Kalawao.

“It was May 18, 1989 before I had an HF antenna system installed, a roof-mounted Butternut HF9v, and started working the HF bands, pursuing DX and eventually found the 3905cc nets. I earned most of their awards available at the time. I was also heavily involved as a MARS Radio Operator especially during the Desert Shield/Desert Storm activities.

“In June 1993, I discovered the County Hunters Net while on a trip to Montana. I was hooked. May 1994 brought a change in my work pursuits. I started driving 18-wheelers for a living. The side effect was that I not only could still work counties, but I was now the mobile as well. I soon became an Over-The-Road instructor in the 18-wheeler and covered a lot of miles between air-times on the net. I slept while the student drove. As I owned the 18-wheeler, I could pretty much take whatever route I wanted which allowed for a lot of ‘side trips‘.

“I have transmitted from 2387 counties and earned almost 800 last counties. I was County Hunter of the Year 2002 and Mobile Station of the Year 2002. I hold 4 stars and Bingo II. I have completed All SSB, All on 20 Meters and All Mobile-Mobile. I need 19 for 5-star, 17 for Master Gold, and 164 for 5th time.

“Another life change came about in March 2004. I sold my truck, moved back to my roots here in Maine and went to work for a local trucking company driving just in the Northeast. Unfortunately, I eventually was assigned to a newer model Volvo truck with S-9 noise levels created by the on-board Electronic Control Module for the diesel engine. County hunting became too much of a challenge. I quit driving the 18-wheeler when dad became ill in May 2011 and I eventually retired in Sep 2011.

“Retired??? I renewed my Registered Maine Guide License in 2005 and currently guide clients for fishing the Kennebec River, deer hunting, canoeing, photographic trips and snowmobiling. I do scenic photography and sell some of my work. I am a substitute high school teacher, am on the local school board, am 2nd VP of the American Legion Post 39, maintain 3 websites, manage our Medical Transcription Service and am heavily involved in the US Naval Sea Cadet Corps program



MRC Memories

-Episode 2 -
Gary, K4EXT

Sandy, WB4EVH emailed an interesting story regarding one of his own MRC memories. Please enjoy ... and feel free to email me any MRC anecdotes, experiences, or surprises of your own!

The following is from Sandy, WB4EVH:

“Back in the early 90’s I was coming back from Dublin, GA to Warner Robins, GA. I had the time, so I took highway 80 out of Dublin. There are several counties along the way and a couple of side trips of a couple of miles will get several more counties. I stopped on one of these side road county lines and began to put it out. Paul, WA3TUC was net control. A station in two-land came on and stated that I could not be on that county line since his Rand McNally did not show it. Paul told him if he doubted it, do not work me, but that since I had been number one mobile several years in the GA-QSO party, Paul was pretty sure that I knew where I was! The 2-lander continued to protest, but worked me anyway. Note that Rand McNally is still, today, horribly wrong in several places in Georgia! By the time I had received his MRC I had gone back to this county line, which today has moved about a mile and still doesn’t show on a Rand McNally atlas, and taken a picture of it and the highway sign showing the road number. I had several copies of the negative made. I put invalid contact on the MRC, noting that his atlas did not show this county line, and returned it along with the picture I had taken. I do not know how he ever got the two counties confirmed, because I have never worked this station again in either of these counties.

“Based on this incident, I would like to point out for the general interest of everyone who uses a GPS to locate county lines that the maps for my part of Georgia are at least 5 years old in the newest GPS (January 2012) I have checked. I can show you instances where the map in a GPS, for a certain area, is at least 20 years old. I have checked most brands available here and most price ranges with the same result. There may be options out there I don’t know about that correct some of this, but, my correspondence with Garmin and Magellan indicate that they buy their maps from outside their own company and they do not check the accuracy of the map. I was told by Magellan that if I would buy the new yearly update, it would correct my problem. I countered with, if it doesn’t will you refund my money. They refused. I also know that here, there was a lot of surveying being done last year and as a result several county line signs moved slightly (a mile or less). I personally am not going to depend on a GPS to locate a county line when you don’t see a sign, based on what I know about county lines here and what “MY” GPS shows.

“Yes, I know we go by best information available to locate county lines, but, I must question just using GPS to locate them.”



USA-CHA

This came from an unknown benefactor in Phoenix, AZ. ed.

US-CHA

UNITED STATES - COUNTY HUNTERS AWARD

The United States - County Hunters Award was started in 1965 by Clif Evans, K6BX, as a part of the Certificate Hunters Club. After the dissolution of the CHC on Clif's death, Paul Schuett, KE6RN, obtained the records and supplies, reestablishing the award on December 1, 1980.

The award is a certificate 17 by 22 inches, printed on parchtone bond, showing an outline map of the United States with all the counties named, permitting the holder to color in the various counties as he progresses through the award. By using different colors at each award level, the certificate will be a unique record of progress as the counties are collected.

The basic award is issued for contacting 300 counties with endorsements at increments of 300 counties. Various band and mode endorsements such as all 14 MHz, all SSB, all mobiles, etc. may be obtained.

No particular form is needed to apply for the award. Applicants may use self-prepared lists, photocopies of their record books, or any convenient method. The application should be clear and legible, listing the counties in alphabetical order by states in alphabetical order. A summary of the number of counties worked in each state should be included. The application should be authenticated by two licensed amateurs, a radio club official, or public authority indicating to their satisfaction the applicant has made the contacts.

For the most part the general provisions are the same as for most amateur radio awards with some differences:

- QSL cards are not required. Log entries are acceptable.
- There is no minimum signal report requirement as long as the stations can hear each other.
- There are no date limits, QTH, or call-sign requirements.
- Applicants may count as worked any county they operate from.
- Operation from county lines or multiple-county points counts for each county. USGS topographic maps are the authority for determining the location of such points. It is presumed the mobile operator knows where he is.

Complete information about the award is available from the custodian for a #10 SASE or 1 IRC.

The cost for a basic certificate or a duplicate is \$6 with subsequent endorsements at 50 cents. Only one fee is incurred at any one application -- the basic certificate and endorsements for 900 counties would be \$6. Endorsement from 900 to 1500 counties would be 50 cents.

Correspondence and applications go to the custodian

Paul Schuett -- KE6RN
13779 North Wells Lane
Lodi, California 95240

Birthdays

Roadrunner - Birthdays

Call	Birthday Date
W8WVU	May - 01
N7NU	May - 01
N1CP	May - 01
K9GI	May - 01
KB9ER	May - 01
AD5WI	May - 01
K5IW	May - 02
KA5AGM	May - 02
KF5EH	May - 02
KC2RNA	May - 02
AC7DC	May - 02
VA3XOV	May - 03
W5AL	May - 03
N2DFC	May - 04
VE3KZE	May - 04
KA1JPR	May - 04
NK2W	May - 04
K5PKQ	May - 05
W7CA	May - 05
WA0JCE	May - 05
W4USA	May - 05
KB0LN	May - 05
WV8LNX	May - 05
WD5O	May - 05
W5BAK	May - 05
K4RYE	May - 06
K9DXA	May - 06
KE1GI	May - 06
KJ8V	May - 06
W8CDC	May - 06
KC8EM	May - 06
W8RCW	May - 07
WY7LL	May - 07
AC4WF	May - 08
N5ZXR	May - 08
K6TWX	May - 08
K3KX	May - 09

Roadrunner - Birthdays

Call	Birthday Date
K3PN	May - 09
K7VI	May - 09
NH6T	May - 09
W7KWR	May - 09
OH3JF	May - 09
W4LTF	May - 10
K4FPF	May - 10
N1ETC	May - 10
N2NL	May - 10
K4IJQ	May - 10
AA6PI	May - 11
N4GJ	May - 11
W7CFR	May - 11
K5CBS	May - 11
N2TR	May - 11
ND3T	May - 12
AE3Z	May - 12
NX0X	May - 12
W6RJC	May - 13
K0MT	May - 13
KI4HL	May - 13
KO4VP	May - 13
N4JT	May - 15
AD4LQ	May - 15
N7JPF	May - 15
KM9X	May - 15
N9JZ	May - 15
KU9UUU	May - 15
W4MAT	May - 16
KA7ICF	May - 16
K4PLB	May - 16
WA0RVG	May - 16
N8BGF	May - 16
AA6AF	May - 17
K5CJ	May - 17
W5IUA	May - 17
W5VD	May - 17

Roadrunner - Birthdays

Call	Birthday Date
AH9B	May - 17
N9QPQ	May - 17
KG5RQ	May - 17
N3AO	May - 17
N0SM	May - 17
KB4TI	May - 17
K0SSE	May - 18
WB9UKS	May - 19
AB5OK	May - 20
K1QFD	May - 20
K0YW	May - 20
KF0KC	May - 21
NH7N	May - 21
WA1LJD	May - 21
N4DDK	May - 21
KM5QF	May - 21
W9DC	May - 21
KF7CT	May - 22
W1TY	May - 22
NA4FM	May - 22
AB2LS	May - 22
KJ6C	May - 22
K8LJG	May - 22
N7AZ	May - 23
W4RSD	May - 23
WW3DE	May - 23
N0DXH	May - 24
WB2NFB	May - 24
AA9GF	May - 24
W7GVF	May - 24
KJ4VV	May - 24
ND9M	May - 24
K1CXP	May - 24
WB5KLJ	May - 25
W8OWR	May - 25
N0VWD	May - 25
N5MLP	May - 25

Roadrunner - Birthdays

Call	Birthday Date
K9KBK	May - 25
KL7NV	May - 26
KE9SZ	May - 26
NU9M	May - 26
AA8IA	May - 27
KC8AKM	May - 27
KN4JR	May - 27
N7LON	May - 27
NK0L	May - 27
KF9LI	May - 27
WB4KZW	May - 27
K8EUX	May - 27
N0ALC	May - 28
KA4NZG	May - 28
NL7KM	May - 28
N8CIJ	May - 28
W9PIP	May - 29
K1CN	May - 29
W0CI	May - 29
KE9FG	May - 29
K2MF	May - 30
N6VQQ	May - 30
N4ABR	May - 30
K8AO	May - 30
K4ZZ	May - 30
K7INA	May - 31
WB5IMT	May - 31
W0ICP	May - 31
W1KSI	May - 31
N6PDB	May - 31
W9GBH	May - 31



Awards

Awards Issued For May			
Call	Date	Award	Number
N4AAT	5/6/2012	USA-CW II	# 29
W7FEN	5/24/2012	BINGO	# 341
N8HAM	5/6/2012	USA - Single Band	# 17 - 20 Meters - 3077 Counties
N8HAM	5/6/2012	Mobile to Mobile	# 19
WA5OPO	5/12/2012	USA-PA #W# Prefix	# 9
KI2G	4/30/2012	USA-CA WAC 1 st Time	#1226
N4VA	5/23/2012	USA-CA WAC 1 st Time	#1227
W7FEN	5/21/2012	Worked all Counties - 2nd Time	# 413
KB6UF	5/2/2012	Worked all Counties - 5th Time	# 108

Roadrunner Issued For May				
Call	Date	Count	Award	Number
KB6UF	5/24/2012	Last County Count 1025	Last County Count 1025	# 5
KA3DRO	5/24/2012	Last County Count 375	Last County Count 375	# 43
KC5QCB	5/24/2012	Last County Count 25	Last County Count 25	# 502
NOKV	5/24/2012	Last County Count 375	Last County Count 375	# 42
N4JT	5/24/2012	Last County Count 825	Last County Count 825	# 10
KB0BA	5/24/2012	Last County Count 100	Last County Count 100	# 233



**Treasurer's Report
April 30, 2012**

Funds Balance March 31, 2012		\$25,476.97
Income:		
Money Market Interest	\$0.84	
Awards Manager Income	\$416.00	
Membership Income	\$530.44	
Logger distribution	\$44.95	
		<u>\$992.23</u>
Expenses:		
Awards Manager Expenses	\$422.36	
		<u>\$422.36</u>
Transfer funds to incoming Treasurer	\$1,000.00	
Account Balances		\$25,046.84
Checking Account	\$4,391.02	
Money Market Account	<u>\$20,655.82</u>	
		\$25,046.84
Note		
The following monies are not included in the above:		
Awards Chairman's Funds	\$1,500.00	



**Awards Manager's Report
May 31, 2012**

Funds Balance April 30, 2012		\$1,500.00
Income	\$ 596.00	
		<u>\$ 596.00</u>
Expenses:		
Office supplies	\$ 882.93	
Plaque Suppliers	\$ 114.00	
Postage	\$ 106.05	
		<u>\$1102.98</u>
Sent to Treasurer		\$ 596.00
Reimbursement received from Treasurer		\$1102.98
Funds Balance May 31, 2012		\$1500.00



County Party

2012 (46TH) MARAC U. S. COUNTIES QSO PARTY
1400Z TO 2400Z, Saturday, JULY 28, AND SUNDAY, JULY 29, 2012

The Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club is pleased to sponsor the 46th U. S. Counties QSO Party. CW and SSB Mobile (includes Portable) and Fixed operation from every county in the U.S. is encouraged.

RULES: Fixed Stations may be worked only once on each band.
U.S. Mobiles may be worked each time they change county or band.
When operating on county lines count one QSO for each county.
A station may not operate more than one transmitter at one time.

Spotting is encouraged, including self-spotting by mobiles and fixed stations.

EXCHANGE:

U.S. Stations: RST/RS, state and county.

All others: RST/RS and "DX".

County abbreviations (prepared by W0QE) are available at:

<http://www.bnk.com/w0qe/CountyAbbrev-V3-4col.pdf>

<http://www.bnk.com/w0qe/CountyAbbrev-V3-4col.doc>

SCORING:

1 point for Fixed stations;

15 points for U.S. Mobiles (must activate more than one county);

5 points for DX.

FINAL SCORE = TOTAL QSO POINTS times unique U.S. COUNTIES WORKED.

For a valid contact, one station must be in a U.S. County.

Net contacts are invalid for contest purposes.

Mobiles changing states during the contest should calculate their scores for each state and total score.

Total Overall Score must not count a county as a multiplier more than once regardless of the mobile's county or band.

Separate logs for CW and SSB contacts are required.

FREQUENCIES:

CW: 3.550, 7.050, 14.050, 21.050, 28.050.

SSB: 3.850, 7,250, 14,270, 21,400, 28,400.

Mobiles operate below, fixed Stations above, listed frequencies.

AWARDS:

MARAC Contest Certificates:

First Place CW and SSB Mobile and fixed in each State.

First Place CW and SSB in each DX country (non U.S.).

MARAC Contest Plaques:

First place CW and SSB mobile and fixed U.S. stations.

First place CW and SSB in each DX country (non-U.S.).

Send completed logs and summary sheet by August 31, 2012, to:
Norm Beavers W3DYA; 3320 McMillan Dr; Tyler, TX 75701-8239,
or email to: w3dya@juno.com (text or WORD .DOC files OK).
Summary sheet available by email request.

Calendar

~ June 2012 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
ONLY START DATE SHOWN		CLICK THE EVENT TO GO WEB SITE			1	2 10-10 DIGI OPEN AL QP
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 WV QP KIDS DAY
17	18 RUN FOR BACON	19	20	21	22	23 FIELD DAY
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



Awards Committee

These MARAC members are serving on the Awards Committee:

Awards Manager - Bob Devine (KC6AWX)

Phil Yasson (AB7RW)

Bob Gedemer (KA9JAC)

Dave Splitt (KE3VV)

Kent Reinke (KL1V)

Ed Palagyi (KN4Y)

Leo Bingham (WY7LL)

“Matt” Mathew (W0NAC)

David Pyle (KW1DX)

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 25th!

Board of Directors

President: Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, 21175 FM2556, Santa Rosa, TX 78593 1-956-202-3373, joycenul@aol.com

Vice-President: Leo Bingham, WY7LL, 28 Buck Dr, Pine Haven, WY 82721, 307-686-8230, wy7ll.lightningleo@gmail.com

Secretary: Jim Grandinetti, KZ2P, 2690 Bohicket Rd, Johns Island, SC 29455, 843-323-8385, k2jg@comcast.net

Treasurer: Terry Dummler, WQ7A, PO Box 500, Yelm, WA 98597, 253-370-3377, wq7a@comcast.net

Great Lakes Director: Dan Mulford, KM9X, 5225 N Co Rd 100E, Osgood IN 47037, 812-498-6702, km9x@frontier.com

North Central Director: Tony Mazzocco, WA9DLB, 275 E County Line RD, Barrington, IL 60010, 224-678-5265, wa9dlb@homail.com

Northeast Director: Carol-Ann Reitman, AB2LS, 100 Woodbury Rd, Highland Mills, NY 10930, 845-928-6238, ab2ls@optonline.net

South Central Director: Barry Mitchell, N0KV, 12200 Boothill Dr, Parker, CO 80138, 303-842-5635, n0kv@arrl.net

Pacific Director: Robert T. Devine, KC6AWX, 407 Alameda Del Prado, Novato, CA 94949-6302, 415-883-8980, kc6awx@marac.org

Southeast Director: David Splitt, KE3VV, 6111 Utah Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20015-2005, 202-362-3355 ke3vv@marac.org

Appointees

Awards Manager: Robert T. Devine, KC6AWX, 407 Alameda Del Prado, Novato, CA 94949-6302, 1-415-883-8980, kc6awx@marac.org

Appointees

Historian: Gary Beam, K4EXT, 195 Nanny Goat Hill Rd, Elizabethton, TN 37643, ch2@k4ext.com

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Custodian, Club Call, K9DCJ: Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, 21175 FM2556, Santa Rosa, TX 78593 1-956-636-9161 joycenul@aol.com

Election Coordinator: Kent Reinke, KL1V, PO Box 215, Valdez, AK 99686, 901-835-4942, kr@gci.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 54937, 920-923-0130, kd9zp@att.net

Dues with an Electronic copy of the Newsletter copy are \$14.00 per year, check or money order; \$14.75 via PayPal.