



THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

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Riding the County Lion

Dave – KE3VV

The KE3VV Road Trip Ensemble, which includes the magnificent (though slightly obnoxious) County Lion and the Big Green Dragon (as well as moi), wish all loyal MARAC county hunters a very Happy and Prosperous and Healthy New Year! If it would just stop snowing here in the Northeast, I could do my planned road trip to New York – which has already been cancelled or delayed several times. Anyway, if all goes well, I will load up the Big Green Dragon and head for Orange County, New York next Saturday via York, Dauphin, Lebanon, Schuylkill, Luzerne, Lackawanna, Wayne, and Pike (PA). Short trip, so returning on Sunday – not sure of the route, but I am down to just 28 counties to transmit for Master Platinum, so it would be nice to knock off a few of those on this trip... really depends on the weather, which is brewing up another Nor'easter for this week. Maybe I will catch a lull. The Lion says that he is going to catch a nap, so not much encouragement from the hairy one.

I am also making final preparations for my trip to Kenya that is fast approaching. I have already had several inquiries about whether I will be doing any DX-pedition contacts – not likely (unless someone I run into there has a ham rig). I plan to enjoy the sights and sounds and tastes – my hosts just got a new ultralight, so I may do a little flying – the County Lion warns me not to scare any wildebeest... and I responded that “No Gnus is Good Gnus.” When lions groan, it is a funny sound. I have completed all of the many immunizations required for the trip (including yellow fever and a bunch of others) and am going to head down to the Kenyan Embassy next week to secure a visa. We also have a 12-hour layover in Amsterdam on the way over (courtesy of KLM airlines), so I am going to take advantage of the short train ride from Schiphol Airport into the city, so if anyone has any great ideas about things to do with a one-day layover in Amsterdam (other than getting stoned on legal pot – which one can do here anyway,

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at least in Seattle and Denver), please send me an email. I was thinking about the canal tour, but also thought it might be a bit chilly for that in January. I keep forgetting that the Netherlands are at the same latitude as Newfoundland, Canada! Anyway – the fabulous resource of the Internet to the rescue – the canal tours run all winter – glass topped boats with heaters – now why didn't I think of that?

There are few counties on my upcoming road trip to Pennsylvania and New York for which I will have to refresh my brain on proper pronunciation. Some are easy, of course, like York and even the much longer Lackawanna... the Dragon says that he doesn't Lackawanna for anything because I am such a generous guy. Along with the likes of Pike and Wayne, there are a lot of really easy-to-pronounce counties in the Keystone State. By the way, did I mention that the reason is it called the Keystone State is its central position in the 13 original colonies – like the stone block at the top of an arch that holds the arch together, Pennsylvania was viewed (at least by Ben Franklin and other Pennsylvanians) as the colony that held the revolution together and provided leadership for the emerging United States of America. But I digress...

I suppose there are a few among us who have trouble with Dauphin County – it is pronounced DAW-fin and sort of rhymes with the sea mammal, the dolphin. Much more of a challenge is my favorite – Schuylkill County – which officially includes the “l” sound in the middle of the name – SKOOL-kul – but which all the locals omit when pronouncing it SKOO –kul (and the “kul” is almost swallowed). Either is acceptable, but please don't say School-kill or Squee-kill or any of the other wanderings of the tongue that this county has to suffer from time to time.

Other Pennsylvania counties that occasionally slip off the tongue in aberrant fashion include Susquehanna (the first syllable rhymes with “bus” – SUS-kwi-han-na) and there is no “eee” sound in the middle – a shorter sound like “quick” or “question”. Keep in mind that McKean is only two syllables – ma-KEEN – like Lehigh – LEE-high – while Cameron and Cambria each have three – KAM-ur-un and KAM-bri-a (not bree-a, but more like the short “i” in April). All in all, Pennsylvania is a state with sensible names that can be easily pronounced – or at least not butchered badly – by anyone giving it half an effort.

I would venture into the how-to-say-it for some more difficult venues, but it is, after all, the New Year holiday season and my brain is working on fewer cells than usual or perhaps just a few more dulled synapses – blame it on the extra glass or two of good cheer. And with that thought, it just may be time to join the County Lion for a cozy winter nap beside the fire crackling in the living room and watch a few more football games and listen to the cliché-ridden commentary until my brain turns to complete mush – somewhere running downhill in space.

Until next month, the County Lion, the Dragon, and I wish you 73s, 88s, a peaceful and warm January 2014, and another year On the Green Side.



Christmas is a time for sharing - KE3VV and Oakley

Dateline CW

Ed, KN4Y

Participants pass, but County Hunting is eternal.

Happy New Year, Can it be the year 2014 already? What did I do last year? I must plan to make a county hunting plan for this year. Usually when I make such a plan it does not pan out and the plan is re-planned or paned. I am distracted from my plan planning when I hear Gator's truck slides up to the recycled railroad tie. Gator comes into the radio shack carrying a white cardboard box and a white envelope. "Happy New Year Dude, I have what every county hunter wants for the New Year, a hot latte and a custard filled éclair." He hands me a cup of java and a custard filled éclair, "Gator, you know how to start a new year off sweetly, what is in that envelope?" "I have no idea; it was hanging on your mailbox." I take the envelope and open it, "Wow Gator I got first place world in the ten-ten international net fall CW QSO party." Gator sips his latte, "You done did good," Gator turns on the computer and I enjoy my éclair and wipe the custard off my chin..

Gator finishes his latte, "Dude did you operate in the ARRL 160-meter contest?" I hand him a memory stick. "Here is the log." Gator looks at the log, "I see you made 190 QSO's, you must have stayed up after midnight, how were conditions?" I give Gator a thumbs down, "The conditions were brutal, lots of QSB and I heard no stations west of Kansas. How many new counties did I get?" Gator massages the log, "Not bad Dude, you got 21 new counties on 160-meters, two 1X3 and one 2x2 call," I take four cookies of the computer desk to enjoy with my latte.

Gator is looking at the computer, "I see that county hunter Dude with the Big Green Dragon is no longer legal consul for the ten-ten International; Net. Do you know why?" "They probably found out he was a mobile county hunter with no ten meter resonator." "Really?" "No Gator, I was just joking, here check out my ARRL ten meter contest log." Gator takes the memory stick and brings up the log.

I am listening to W4SIG running mobile and see Gator motions with his hand to get my attention and I turn around, "Ten meters must have been in a good propagation mode. You made 350 QSO's encompassing 36 States, 9 Canada multipliers, 3 Mexican States, 52 DXCC countries, four new ten meter counties and a natural Bingo." "How long did you operate." "I got the CW going Friday night and the band was nada, made 20 Texas contacts in five hours. Saturday morning I came to the shack at 5:00am." "Really Dude you were here before daylight." "Please do not interrupt and yes I was here and at sunrise the band again was filled with signals. I had a ball working the stations." I pause for a sip of latte, "Sunday I did the same thing except I stopped to go to church. Sunday was good but not like Saturday." Gator shakes his head, "I find it hard to believe you got here at 5:00am." Time is a tool for County hunters..

Gator swivels around in the office chair, "I see you worked the Croatian CW contest and made 60 contacts." "Yes I did, I hope to get the 9A boys into county hunting." "Never happen Captain." I know better and ask, "How did I do in the Stew Perry contest and the Canada Winter contest."

Suddenly Gator's cell phone ring a ding pierces our inattention span, "Sorry Dude I have to move my body to another location and he is gone like drops of sweat on a hot plate. I hear him yell, "Cappuccino tastes better then espresso." Except for a piece of tail all the kamikaze squirrels made it safely across the driveway. The printer stops. I get the printout and it is a list of the county hunters heard on the CW call frequencies. I read, AB4YZ, AF3X, AF5CC, K0ARS, K0FG, K4YT, K4YAA, KA4RRU, KB9OWD, KC7YE, KE3VV, KO7X, KW1DX, N3RC, N4CD, N4JT, N7IV, NT2A, NU0Q, W0GXQ, W3DQT, W4HSA, W4SIG, W5QP, W7FEN, W7IN, and WD4OIN.

I see on the on the county hunter's forum that Bill, W7GHT is a silent key. I remember anxiously waiting for the cherished MRC's from Bill during my quest towards USA-CA. Lay down in Peace and Sleep.

January when the Northern mobile CW county hunters encounter high winds, freezing temperatures, whiteouts and icy roads, the Southern county hunters are hunting deer, pythons and hogs and to make matters worse this is the second month with no State QSO parties. However, there are 18 CW contests during this first month of a new year. The fun starts with the ARRL straight key night. You can ignore this contest If you do not know what a straight key is. Want some DX action; check out the OK1WC Memorial Contest and the fast and furious four hour LZ open contest. If you know your name try the North American QSO party. If you want some six meter fun operate in the ARRL January VHF contest. To finish the month there is the Classic Exchange which is a junk contest. Did I say that, definitely nap time?

HAPPY NEW YEAR



History Happens

Gary, K4EXT

December was another great month for CH-related pictures and information. The County Sign Project has now surpassed the 2200 county mark ... and Rick, W5QP finished up the state of Arkansas with his picture of the Greene County sign. Other submissions were made by KB0BA/N0XYL, K5GE, N4CD, W3DYA, N9STL, and VE2MAM. Many thanks to all!

Norm, W3DYA sent me a CD full of CW County Hunter pictures from the 1990's ... plus another CD filled with old MARAC convention (maxi and mini) photos (along with paper versions too). I still have a lot of work to do in getting all these new pics posted.

Please check out the current collection of pictures and information by visiting the CH History/Archive website at the following Internet address:

<http://www.CHarchive.com>

The photo below is one of the many I recently received from Norm, W3DYA. Pictured are George, KD8HA and Joyce, KD8HB ... yes, OM and XYL ... taken at the 3M convention in Murfreesboro, Tennessee back in November 1995.

George's county hunting accomplishments include Bingo and five "Worked All Counties" stars. George was also an Army Veteran, Cincinnati Reds fan, 4-H leader, rabbit raiser, and nationally known rabbit judge. George became a silent key in March 2013 at the age of 85.

Joyce's county hunting accomplishments include Bingo I and II, eight stars, and CW-1 thru CW-5. Most CH CW operators have likely worked Joyce in the past ... and I'm pretty sure I've heard her on the CW Nets in recent weeks!



Marac 2014 Elections Announcement

Nominations are currently open for the positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer (all 2 year terms). Nominations are also open for the position of South Central Director (3 year term). Nominations will be open for 60 days - from January 5th through March 10th. Any current member of MARAC is eligible to run for office. For the District Director position you must live within the District which is listed on the MARAC website.

If you are willing to serve MARAC in an elected position, please send your nomination to KR@GCL.NET or via regular mail, which I must receive by March 10th.

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.

If you are unsure of your membership status, please go to the MARAC County Hunters Database web site <http://marac.org/database> and enter your call in Call Lookup to determine your MARAC Expiration Date.

MARAC 2nd QUARTER AWARD VOTING *October – December*

Voting will be open from January 1st through January 31st for the best net control, mobile and team awards. The easiest way to place your vote is at the MARAC On-Line Ballot site <http://marac.org/elections/>. All you will need to enter on the sign in page is your callsign and your MARAC key. If you have lost or do not know your key then enter your callsign and click on the button below to request your key. The key will be immediately emailed to your email address of record. You may also submit your vote via regular mail. I must receive the ballot by the closing date of voting. Please include your callsign, MARAC membership and key number along with your choice(s) for each class.

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 _____ / _____

Your call sign _____ **MARAC # or Election Key** _____

**Kent Reinke KV7N
MARAC Election Coordinator
1826 East 4500 North
Buhl, Idaho 83316**



Digital Happenings

DIGITAL HAPPENINGS #17

(December 2013)

By W0NAC ("Matt")

The Christmas season has been a very busy one for the Matthew family and I'm sure for your families too. Having many of our children, grandchildren, and our 2 year old great granddaughter with us over Christmas has been super nice, but carving out time to write this issue of Digital Happenings has been tough. As a result, this month's article will again be a bit shorter than usual (maybe this is a good trend?). My hope is that all of you had a meaningful and merry Christmas and that you are having a great 2014 new year so far! Now on to the main subject for this month's article....

JT65 & JT9 Modes (Re-visited)

Even though I have discussed both JT65 and JT9 modes in past articles, there have been changes and updates (especially in software) that affect both modes. Because of these new changes, I would like to re-visit both of these modes this month.

I have come to think of JT65 and JT9 modes as "hidden treasures" for county hunting. I believe this is true for several reasons. First, they are unbelievably popular not only in the US, but all over the world. One can find stations to work using these modes when every band appears to be dead!

Second, they are the absolute best modes you can use for working weak signals on HF. This weak signal capability allows one to use low power and less than optimum antennas (like most mobile antennas and attic antennas) and still make reliable contacts.

If you give them a try, I think you will find JT65 and JT9 to be very helpful for working new counties for your USACA or Nth time as well as adding to your **USA – Digital Award** and **5 – Mode Award** totals. Also, for those county hunters that like to work DX, the JT65 and JT9 modes can help you reach your DXCC goals.

JT65 HF Mode General Description – The JT65-HF mode is based on JT65A code from the WSJT Project (headed by Joe Taylor - K1JT), but has been specially adapted for use on HF by Joe Large - W6CQZ. JT65 is a tightly structured protocol that sends a very limited set of short structured messages or a small 'free text' message limited to a maximum of 13 characters. It is not a free form data transmission protocol like most other modes, but each transmitted 'frame' is of a fixed length, starting and ending at a predefined time. In any one minute frame you can send any one of the structured messages, 13 characters of text or any of the 3 shorthand messages. Nothing more, nothing less. Each new transmission starts precisely 1 second into a new minute and ends ~47 seconds later when a decoding interval starts for anyone listening to your signal. This structure, its timing, modulation method, and heavy Forward Error Correction (FEC) are what allow JT65 to work so well at very low signal levels (as low as -25 dB S/S+N ratio). The bandwidth of a JT65 transmission is 175 Hz. A typical QSO requires 5-6 message exchanges, each lasting 1 minute for a total QSO time of 5-6 minutes.

JT65-HF Links For Downloads/Setup Manuals, etc:

- 1) JT65-HF Setup Manual & Technical Details -
<https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/26171574/JT65/jt65-hf-setup.pdf>
- 2) JT65-HF Install/Setup program -
<https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/26171574/JT65/setup-JT65-HF-1093.exe>

3) Link to download the TimeSync 2.0 Program (which you **will** need for **both** JT65 and JT9):

<http://ravib.com/timesync/>

4) Excellent article on communicating with JT65 by W6DTW:

https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/26171574/JT65/2010_10_JT65A-Part-1_Compressed.pdf

Typical Band/Frequencies (Xcvr Dial Setting - USB) used for JT65-HF:

160 Meters - 1.838 MHz
80 Meters - 3.576 MHz
40 Meters - 7.076 MHz
30 Meters - 10.139 MHz
20 Meters - 14.076 MHz
17 Meters - 18.102 MHz
15 Meters - 21.076 MHz
12 Meters - 24.917 MHz
10 Meters - 28.076 MHz

JT9 Mode General Description – This mode is a relatively new mode contained in the WSJT-X version of WSJT, developed by the WSJT Project (headed by Joe Taylor - K1JT). JT9 is similar to JT65 and also uses a tightly structured protocol that sends a very limited set of structured messages or a small ‘free text’ message type limited to a maximum of 13 characters.

JT9 is currently optimized for the 1.8 MHz, 472 kHz, 137 kHz, and HF bands. It is about 2 dB more sensitive than JT65 while using less than 10% of the bandwidth.

JT9 offers five choices for the duration of timed T/R sequences (sub-modes). These sub-modes are JT9-1, JT9-2, JT9-5, JT9-10, and JT9-30 which use 1, 2, 5, 10, and 30 minute transmission periods respectively. Using longer transmissions trades reduced throughput for smaller bandwidth and increased sensitivity. The slowest sub-mode, JT9-30, has total bandwidth of only 0.4 Hz and operates at signal-to-noise ratios as low as -42 dB measured in the standard 2.5 kHz reference bandwidth! JT9-1 is the most commonly used sub-mode unless you really need the additional sensitivity of a slower mode. Probably 99% of all JT-9 contacts made today use the JT9-1 sub-mode.

Like JT65, JT9 is not a free form data transmission protocol, but each transmitted ‘frame’ is of a fixed length, starting and ending at a predefined time. Unlike JT65, JT9 offers 5 sub-modes using different length ‘frames’. JT9’s unique structure, timing, modulation method, and heavy Forward Error Correction (FEC) are what allow JT9 to work even better than JT65 at very low signal levels.

The JT9 mode is only available from within a special software program named WSJT-X. Early versions of WSJT-X did not contain JT65 optimized for use on HF. This is probably what inspired W6CQZ to create the JT65-HF software package. The very latest version of WSJT-X software will operate in either JT65 or JT9 modes (or both simultaneously!). Whether or not the WSJT-X version of JT65 will supersede JT65-HF remains to be seen. Personally, I still prefer to use the JT65-HF software as it seems to be more user friendly, but you will need to decide for yourself which software to use. The nice thing is that you can have **both** software programs installed on your computer. You just can’t run them both at the same time.

JT9 Links For Downloads/Setup Manuals, etc:

1) WSJT-X Page For Downloading/Manuals/Etc. -

<http://www.physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/wsjsx.html>

2) Latest Version of WSJT-X install (Contains Both JT9 & JT65) -

https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/26171574/WSJT-X%20Beta%20Version%201.2.1%20r3590/WSJTX_121r3590.exe

3) Latest WSJT-X Users Guide Ver 1.1 (PDF) -

https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/26171574/WSJT-X%20Beta%20Version%201.2.1%20r3590/WSJT-X_Users_Guide_v1.1.pdf

4) Latest Change Log for WSJT-X -

https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/26171574/WSJT-X%20Beta%20Version%201.2.1%20r3590/wsjsx_changelog.txt

Detailed Properties For JT9 Sub-Modes:

Sub-Mode	Bandwidth	Sensitivity	Total QSO Time
JT9-1	15.6 Hz	-27 dB	6 Minutes
JT9-2	7.0 Hz	-30 dB	12 Minutes
JT9-5	2.6 Hz	-34 dB	30 Minutes
JT9-10	1.3 Hz	-37 dB	60 Minutes
JT9-30	0.4 Hz	-42 dB	180 Minutes

Typical Band/Frequencies (Xcvr Dial Setting - USB) used for JT9:

160 Meters - 1.840 MHz
80 Meters - 3.578 MHz
40 Meters - 7.078 MHz
30 Meters - 10.141 MHz
20 Meters - 14.078 MHz
17 Meters - 18.104 MHz
15 Meters - 21.078 MHz
12 Meters - 24.919 MHz
10 Meters - 28.078 MHz

I'm certain that by now, all this technical chatter has boggled your mind, at least a little bit. All I can advise at this point is for you to download the manuals (using the links given earlier), print them out, and then start studying. Also, don't be afraid to install the software, set it up, and start using it on the air. As the little boy sitting on a potty said in an earlier article, "Nothing worthwhile is accomplished without effort!" Trust me - learning how to operate using these two new modes will pay you back "in spades"! Besides, if you need help or don't understand something, I will be pleased to help. All you need do is contact me at 303-799-3658 or w0nac@comcast.net. If needed, we can even set up a help session (using Teamviewer) where I can control your computer remotely and help sort things out.

By now, you are probably asking yourself "How could any mode that takes 5-6 minutes for a single QSO be useful in county hunting?" The answer is that both JT65 and JT9 **are** far too slow to use for "putting out" counties while mobile. However, they can be very productive while doing what I call "trolling". Trolling is where you are just calling CQ or answering other's CQs using JT65 or JT9. You can "troll" while you are operating fixed or mobile. In theory, you can complete 10-12 QSOs per hour and if all of these contacts are new, you could "bag" 10-12 new counties during this hour. Compare this to working mobile stations on the net. Here, assuming 10 minute runs, you can make a maximum of only 6 QSOs per hour. To be fair, logging fellow county hunters will probably yield more "goodies" (Stars, MG, MP, MD, etc.) than random fixed stations will, but "trolling", as described earlier, can be very productive toward new

counties for USACA, call prefixes, new modes for the **5 – Mode Award** and new counties for the **USA – Digital Award**.

All the above is theoretical and there are many factors that will cut back on the “goodies” you can log for both scenarios. However, if you look on “trolling” as a supplement to working mobiles and NOT as a replacement, “trolling” can be very useful and a lot of fun at the same time!

December Activities:

Digital activities during December remain low. The only digital stations spotted on W6RK were:

11/30	W0NAC/N0LXJ	Clear Creek/Gilpin, CO	PSK-63, RTTY-45, MFSK-32, DOMINO-22
12/06	KA4RRU	Fauquier, VA	PSK-63
12/27	NA8W	Holmes, OH	PSK-63

There were undoubtedly many other digital stations out there, but they were not county hunters and were not spotted on W6RK.

The updated Table 3 is given below:

Table 3 - Active Digital County Hunters Award Status

#	CALL	NAME	STATUS* (M,F,I)	USA - DIGITAL COUNTIES (of 3077)	(1 MODE)	(2 MODES)	FIVE MODE COUNTIES (3 MODES)	(4 MODES)	(5 MODES)	TOTAL	% 5-Mode Completed
1	AA8R	Randy	F	1000+	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
2	AC0B	Cliff	F	205	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
3	AD1C	Jim	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
4	K0DEQ	Bill	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
5	K0PVW	Rob	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
6	K0WJ	Lou	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
7	K4PBX	Jim	F	136	2903	121	7	2	0	3033	19.7%
8	K5GE	Gene	F	26	1893	575	8	0	0	2476	16.1%
9	K5SF	Dick	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
10	K5WAF	Bill	F	599	3044	?	?	?	?	3044	19.8%
11	K7REL	Tom	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
12	K8QWY	Ed	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
13	K8ZZ	Ed	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
14	KA4RRU	Mike	F	774	3077	2902	749	40	1	6769	44.0%
15	KA8JOP	Pamela	M/F	22	202	64	53	28	4	351	2.3%
16	KC3X	Hollis	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
17	KC6AWX	Bob	F	450	3077	1592	264	59	14	5006	32.5%
18	KC7YE	Jack	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
19	KD5YUK	Billv	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
20	KD7KST	Bill	M/F	1792	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
21	KE7PKL	Davis	F	379	879	211	48	15	1	1154	7.5%
22	KG5RJ	Greg	F	613	3049	2083	565	195	63	5955	38.7%
23	KM1C	Bill	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
24	KU4YM	Dave	F	30	2782	29	10	2	1	2824	18.4%
25	KM6HB	Mark	F	714	3077	2936	694	87	1	6795	44.2%
26	N0KV	Barry	M/F	445	3077	3026	2257	312	66	8738	56.8%
27	N0LXJ	Sharon	M/F	1362	3077	2263	1208	474	237	7259	47.2%
28	N1API	Al	F	500	3077	1786	400	199	119	5581	36.3%
29	N3HOO	Ed	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
30	N4JT	Jim	F	736	3077	3064	743	235	150	7269	47.2%
31	N5MLP	Ron	M/F	391	3077	409	54	37	9	3586	23.3%
32	N6PDB	Dennis	M/F	713	3077	2826	793	444	320	7460	48.5%
33	N8CIJ	Dick	F	676	3077	3014	668	303	229	7291	47.4%
34	N8HAM	Jim	I	0	3077	0	0	0	0	3077	20.0%
35	N9WNN	Steve	F	0	2180	0	0	0	0	2180	14.2%
36	NA8W	Darl	F/M	579	3022	852	381	212	99	4566	29.7%
37	NF0N	Mike	F	785	3077	3077	915	108	50	7227	47.0%
38	NN9K	Pete	F	816	3077	859	78	1	0	4015	26.1%
39	NT2A	Gene	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
40	NU4C	Paul	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
41	NW6S	Jim	F	722	3077	3077	743	59	35	6991	45.4%
42	NX4W	Lloyd	M/F	1135	3077	1274	436	290	97	5174	33.6%
43	W0NAC	Matt	M/F	1812	3077	2828	1970	1078	429	9382	61.0%
44	W3DLM	Don	F	359	3077	2390	298	101	55	5921	38.5%
45	W3ZUH	Dick	F	5	3077	2048	11	2	0	5138	33.4%
46	W4IHI	Garv	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
47	W4SIG	Kerrv	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
48	W4YDY	Dave	F	883	3077	3077	1041	361	181	7737	50.3%
49	W5QP	Rick	M/F	244	3077	2598	252	113	83	6123	39.8%
50	W6RK	Risto	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
51	W6RLI	Joe	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
52	W7FEN	Larry	F	25	3077	2975	32	1	0	6085	39.6%
53	W7IN	Larry	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
54	W7QQ	Bill	M/F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
55	W9JR	Rich	F	90	3077	1674	44	0	0	4795	31.2%
56	W9SUQ	Larry	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
57	WA4EEZ	Leslie	F	1053	3077	1420	572	153	21	5243	34.1%
58	WA4UNS	Doug	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
59	WA6OCV	Susan	M/F	328	3077	328	320	130	10	3865	25.1%
60	WA7JHQ	Sterling	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
61	WB0M	Jeff	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
62	WB2ABD	Paul	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.0%
63	WD4OIN	Jack	F	849	3077	3070	860	288	137	7432	48.3%
64	WO7A	Terry	F	201	3077	3028	206	132	112	6555	42.6%
65	WY4D	Ben	F	265	3077	287	36	15	9	3424	22.3%

How To Get Your 5 – Mode Statistics Updated:

Several past Digital Happenings articles have given detailed instructions on a new and easy way to update your digital statistics for Table 3 by using a small program called "Digital Report Utility". This new program will create a report for you showing your progress for both the **USA – Digital** and the **5 – Mode Awards** and email it to W0NAC. Instead of repeating these instructions every month I have included them in a Microsoft Word document that you can download by clicking on the following link: <https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/26171574/Happenings/5%20Mode%20Update.doc>

Possible topics for the coming months include (in no particular order):

"How To Log Your Digital Contacts In Logger"

"Macros – Revisited"

"New Digital Awards?"

"Digital Software Installation – Revisited"

"Award Difficulty Index"

Come on Guys and Gals! I still really need (and welcome) your suggestions on topics for future articles! Or, if you have something you wish to contribute I will certainly try to include it. Short stories describing your experiences/joys/frustrations/etc. in getting started in digital ops would be especially welcome. Summaries of your digital trips would also be good. I look forward to hearing from you. Don't be shy!

Please email me with your comments/suggestions at w0nac@comcast.net and don't forget to send your updated status for the **USA – Digital** and **5 - Mode Awards** so I can update the Active Digital County Hunters Award Status list again next month.

73's and we hope to see you on our waterfall again real soon!

Matt – W0NAC



Awards

Awards Issued For Nov/Dec 2013			
Call	Date	Award	Number
K5GE	11/10/2013	USA-PA - K	# 27
AB4YZ	10/16/2013	RAN ALL USA	# 16
AD1B	11/29/2013	USA-CA WAC 1 st TIME	# 1239
KA4RRU	12/7/2013	USA-CA WAC 1 st TIME	# 1240
K5WAF	12/9/2013	USA-CA WAC 1 st TIME	# 1241
NU0Q	11/8/2013	Worked all Counties - 2nd Time	# 424
WB4KZW	11/21/2013	Worked all Counties - 4th Time	# 162
LY5A	11/9/2013	Worked all Counties - 4th Time	# 161
KA1JPR	11/7/2013	Worked all Counties - 10th Time	# 5

Roadrunner Issued For Nov/Dec 2013			
Call	Date	Award	Number
AA9JJ	11/21/2013	Last County Count 925	# 9
K4YT	10/30/2013	Last County Count 100	# 242
N2MH	11/5/2013	Last County Count 50	# 342
KW1DX	11/5/2013	Last County Count 200	# 109
N9QS	11/5/2013	Last County Count 800	# 14
W3DQT	11/5/2013	Last County Count 125	# 178
N0KV	10/30/2013	Last County Count 525	# 30
N0DXE	11/21/2013	Last County Count 200	# 110
K5YAA	12/28/2013	Last County Count 25	# 510
KB9YVT	11/21/2013	Last County Count 75	# 265
N7ID	11/21/2013	Last County Count 575	# 27
G4KHG	11/21/2013	Last County Count 175	# 134
WG9A	12/17/2013	Last County Count 375	# 47
W3CR	12/17/2013	Last County Count 400	# 45
N9STL	12/17/2013	Last County Count 150	# 161
W8FNW	12/28/2013	Last County Count 75	# 266
AB7NK	11/21/2013	Last County Count 50	# 343



Birthdays

Roadrunner - Birthdays

Call	Birthday Date
WJ8Y	Jan - 01
KX1A	Jan - 01
W5RJ	Jan - 01
RV1CC	Jan - 01
KN6ZB	Jan - 02
N4IWY	Jan - 03
NX9H	Jan - 03
W2UJ	Jan - 03
N8LG	Jan - 03
K2PF	Jan - 03
WB5NFS	Jan - 03
KQ8D	Jan - 03
NT7R	Jan - 03
WS7R	Jan - 04
KE4TTS	Jan - 04
WA7HYD	Jan - 04
KB1TH	Jan - 04
W6IUA	Jan - 05
KG7UU	Jan - 05
WB6ALC	Jan - 05
W2UDT	Jan - 05
AJ1M	Jan - 05
N4PJX	Jan - 05
KC0YQ	Jan - 05
W4QNW	Jan - 05
AA5AH	Jan - 06
KY0E	Jan - 06
KE1HZ	Jan - 06
NG3F	Jan - 06
N2OCW	Jan - 06
N0DIA	Jan - 07
K9FZ	Jan - 07
KL7IAA	Jan - 07
KE0AY	Jan - 08
N0OSW	Jan - 08
KB8HW	Jan - 08
KK0L	Jan - 09

Roadrunner - Birthdays

Call	Birthday Date
KK6MR	Jan - 09
W3DQT	Jan - 09
KG5U	Jan - 09
K8NQP	Jan - 09
N5EW	Jan - 09
KB4UMO	Jan - 10
AB5ZS	Jan - 10
W0BM	Jan - 11
WA4EEZ	Jan - 11
WA2MCY	Jan - 11
KK5OX	Jan - 11
W6FG	Jan - 11
K4QFK	Jan - 11
AA7CP	Jan - 12
WM0N	Jan - 12
KE5TT	Jan - 12
W1EQ	Jan - 12
W00U	Jan - 12
N8OR	Jan - 12
N9ATA	Jan - 12
KC0CL	Jan - 12
WA9PZV	Jan - 13
WB0VBW	Jan - 13
K6RLR	Jan - 13
KD9OT	Jan - 13
W0QE	Jan - 13
WD3P	Jan - 13
KE5AY	Jan - 14
AA8NS	Jan - 14
NS4C	Jan - 14
KB9YVT	Jan - 14
W0QDL	Jan - 14
K7MM	Jan - 14
K4YC	Jan - 15
N8DMW	Jan - 15
N9NI	Jan - 15
W7MMQ	Jan - 15

Roadrunner - Birthdays

Call	Birthday Date
W4CCT	Jan - 15
KO7X	Jan - 15
K8PP	Jan - 15
KK7GN	Jan - 16
WB0KSW	Jan - 16
K4YL	Jan - 16
W5WEE	Jan - 17
N7JV	Jan - 17
K4RK	Jan - 17
W2BED	Jan - 17
WN8M	Jan - 18
W9QR	Jan - 18
KG5J	Jan - 18
WA3EOL	Jan - 18
K4SHA	Jan - 19
K3JI	Jan - 19
K9QM	Jan - 19
KA0CYB	Jan - 19
WA4STO	Jan - 19
N00U	Jan - 19
KF2O	Jan - 20
KN4Y	Jan - 20
WO7HI	Jan - 20
K1BV	Jan - 20
AB4KL	Jan - 21
NB9P	Jan - 21
W1KI	Jan - 21
AA6MR	Jan - 21
KC9ACL	Jan - 21
N4JRY	Jan - 22
W5THA	Jan - 22
KI6VC	Jan - 22
KF5DE	Jan - 22
KG5VA	Jan - 22
KB6ABC	Jan - 22
N8ZP	Jan - 22
N6OL	Jan - 22

Roadrunner - Birthdays

Call	Birthday Date
AL7HS	Jan - 22
KC5UO	Jan - 23
WA0EVO	Jan - 23
K5DRF	Jan - 23
N8YP	Jan - 23
K4EXT	Jan - 23
KB0MHH	Jan - 23
K5YAA	Jan - 23
K2LFG	Jan - 24
W9XYL	Jan - 24
WD3K	Jan - 24
W7ABC	Jan - 24
KD4ON	Jan - 24
N7PIB	Jan - 25
W0RRY	Jan - 25
KG3P	Jan - 25
W8DH	Jan - 25
N3CRH	Jan - 25
WG9K	Jan - 26
K0KG	Jan - 26
AC9GK	Jan - 26
N0RX	Jan - 26
N4GOA	Jan - 26
K1ER	Jan - 26
WB8ROC	Jan - 26
K5IS	Jan - 26
KC9A	Jan - 27
G3UAS	Jan - 27
WA7NB	Jan - 28
NG9V	Jan - 28
W5VPV	Jan - 28
KU7F	Jan - 29
KF9YL	Jan - 29
K6EW	Jan - 30
K6PDQ	Jan - 30
W0RAA	Jan - 30
AA7GS	Jan - 30

Roadrunner - Birthdays

Call	Birthday Date
N4JRG	Jan - 30
KX2W	Jan - 31
KM4QM	Jan - 31
KF7ZN	Jan - 31
W3TOM	Jan - 31
N0WA	Jan - 31



**Treasurer's Report (W0NAC)
November 2013***

Beginning Account Balances Nov 4, 2013 **\$33,210.89**

November Income:

Money Market Interest	\$2.38	
Awards Manager Income	\$0.00 #	
Membership Income	\$203.00	
Returned Seed Money 2013 National	\$1,681.76	
Logger distribution	\$0.00	
Total Income:		<u>\$1,887.14</u>

November Expenses:

Awards Manager Expenses	\$0.00 #	
Office Expenses (Postage)	\$5.60	
Sunshine Expenses Reimbursement	\$80.31	
Cancelled Sunshine Reimbursement Check (Lost in Mail)	(\$80.31)	
Re-Issued Sunshine Reimbursement Check	\$80.31	
Bank Stop Payment Fee	\$30.00	
Foreign Money Order Cashing Fee	\$10.00	
Total Expenses:		<u>\$125.91</u>

November Net Income Less Expenses **\$1,761.23**

New Total Balance ALL Accounts: **\$34,972.12**

Checking Account Balance	<u>\$3,937.06</u>	
Money Market Account Balance	<u>\$31,035.06</u>	
Total:		\$34,972.12

Note:

The following monies are not included in the account balances above:

Awards Manager's Funds	\$1,500.00
2014 National Convention Seed Monies	\$4,000.00 (Some will be expensed later)

* Includes November Transactions through 12/6/2013

No Awards Manager Income/Expense Report For November
(Will Be Combined With December Report)



**Awards Manager's Report
December 31, 2013**

Funds Balance October 31, 2013		\$1,500.00
Income	\$ 618.00	
	<u>\$ 618.00</u>	
Expenses:		
Office supplies	\$ 186.92	
Plaque Suppliers	\$ 339.25	
Postage	\$ 116.62	
	<u>\$ 642.79</u>	
Sent to Treasurer		\$ 618.00
Reimbursement received from Treasurer		\$ 642.79
Funds Balance December 31, 2013		\$1500.00

**New Members**

<u>MARAC Number</u>	<u>Callsign</u>	<u>Name</u>
R4549	W0SK	James Evans
R4550	KB9OWD	Ryan Klavekoske

**Silent Keys**

<u>Callsign</u>	<u>Silent Key Date</u>
KR1B	May 8, 2013
KR4ZH	December 3, 2013

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 (KV7N)

Ed Palagyi (KN4Y)

“Matt” Matthew (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: David Splitt, KE3VV, 6111 Utah Ave NW, Washington DC 20015, 301-300-2818, davidsplitt@erols.com

Vice-President: Leo Bingham, WY7LL, (SK)

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

Treasurer: Matt Matthew, W0NAC, 17525 Wilde Ave, Unit 108, Parker CO 80134, 303-941-0867, w0nac@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@hotmail.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: Kerry Long, W4SIG, 1385 Auburn Woods Dr, Collierville TN 38017, 901-331-1881, kerrylong@comcast.net

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

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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Webmaster: Mike Fatchett, W0MU, PO Box 3500, Parker, CO 80134, 303-790-4611, w0mu@w0mu.com

Custodian, Club Call, K9DCJ: Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, 21175 FM2556, Santa Rosa, TX 78593 1-956-202-3373, joycenul@aol.com

Election Coordinator: Kent Reinke, KV7N, 1826 East 4500 North, Buhl ID 83316, 208-543-6083, 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.