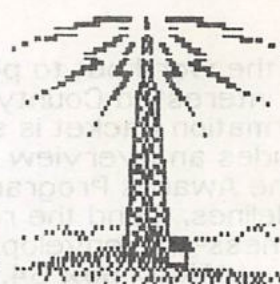


# THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

A PUBLICATION OF MARAC, INC. THE MOBILE  
AMATEUR AWARD CLUB. NET FREQUENCY  
SSB 14.336 MHZ CW 14.086 MHZ  
Editor KOAYO Bob Dyson 8943 S. Overhill DeSoto  
Kansas 66018 913 585 3212



No 213

February 1, 1988

## MINUTES OF THE MARAC MEETING

The January MARAC meeting was held on Jan. 9th, 1988 at the Holiday Inn East, St. Paul, Mn. President Don Strom WAOLKL, called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Also in attendance were WONNH, W9LHG, WOKMH, WAORJJ, WBOUPU, NODRX, and KOTXT. The minutes of the December meeting were presented for approval. WONNH made a motion to accept the minutes as reported in the Roadrunner, seconded by W9LHG, passed.

W9LHG, John, presented the Treasurer's report. There were some questions regarding the closure status of the 1987 National Convention account. John will follow up with the Convention Coordinator and report status. With no other discussion, WOKMH made a motion that the Treasurer's report be accepted, seconded by WONNH, passed.

WAORJJ, Vern, reported the need for naming a nominating committee to re-instate or replace the following MARAC Directors whose terms expire this year: KBOXB - HDQTR; KM4W - SE; and WA4CHI - SC. Bob, WOKMH, volunteered to head the nominating committee, along with committee members WAOLKL and WONNH.

KA5PVB, via the Secretary, extended a special invitation to the Headquarters area to attend the Texas Mini, March 11-12, 1988.

Fortified with coffee to engage the sub-zero temperatures outside, NODRX made a motion to adjourn, seconded by WBOUPU, passed.

The next regular MARAC meetings in the Headquarters area will be on February 6 and March 12 at 9:00 AM at the Holiday Inn East, St. Paul, Mn.

Respectfully, Vern Olson, Secretary, WAORJJ

## NOMINATIONS REQUESTED FOR EXPIRING DIRECTOR POSITIONS

We have two District and one Headquarters Directorships whose terms are expiring in 1988,

KM4W, Southeast District; WA4CHI, South Central District and KBOXB, Headquarters District. KM4W and WA4CHI have agreed to accept re-nomination for terms ending in 1991.

Any members in these Districts wishing to make additional nominations for either of these Directors positions should first contact the person to be nominated to pre-determine acceptance and then forward the nomination to the Secretary of MARAC or WOKMH before March 1. Nominations for the Headquarters position maybe made by any member but the nominee must be a resident within 100 mile radius of Minneapolis-St. Paul. The same requirement for "pre-determination" of acceptance is required. This nomination must also be made by March 1, 1988.



## DUES EXPIRING??

## CHECK YOUR MAILING

## LABEL DATE!!

If your mailing label indicates 8802 or 8803, it is time to renew. Dues with 1st class mailing of the Newsletter are \$11/year. Dues with 3rd class mailing are \$8/year. 3rd class mail is available with the US only. Dues with the Newsletter mailed Air Mail to all continents other than North America are \$20/year. Please make your check or money order payable to MARAC (no cash please) and mail to the Secretary, Vern Olson, WAORJJ, 4024 NW 3rd St, Rochester MN 55901.

Please renew early. When you renew early, the result is a savings to MARAC. For example, early in January, 47 renewal reminders were sent to members whose membership will expire in February. That amounts to about \$8 postage and related expense - expenses that could be eliminated with early renewals. Multiple year renewals and SASE's with renewals are also very much appreciated.

## MARAC INFORMATION PACKET

Get the word out to potential new members and interested County Hunters that a MARAC Information Packet is available. The Packet includes an overview of MARAC, a description of the Awards Program, and the Operating Guidelines. Send the request with a business-size envelope with 39 cents postage to: MARAC, Box 64, Newport MN 55055.



### MARAC FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF DECEMBER, 1987

As of December 1, 1987 the Checking account was \$1153.62. Income for the month was \$1,195.00 and Expenses amounted to \$1,621.84. This left the checking account as of December 31, 1987 at \$726.78.

The Savings account as of December 1, 1987 was \$2,299.22 and interest earned during the month amounted to \$39.67. As of December 31, 1987 the savings account balance was \$2,338.89.



WE'RE

### ADDRESS CHANGES, NEW CALLS, AND ADDITIONS

MOVING! W0WYJ, R1993 4325 Bellewood Dr St. Louis, Mo 63125.  
WA5DTK R1156 P O Box 4342 Patrick AFB, FL 32925. K4WVX R166, 633 Baden Av #F, South San Francisco, CA 94080. N9AUV R1647 New Zip 46953-2934. K0AYO C10 New Zip 66018-9480. KM80 R1673 5390 La Jolla Blvd, La Jolla, CA 92037. AD5F R1677 New Zip 75791-0477. ND1H R1691 486 TMMS/LGMMQ APO NY NY 09027-0477. KW3H R1824 New Zip 21701-6724. N9DKS R1914 8620-190 NW 13th St. Gainesville FL 32606. WORLR R293 703-J North Ventura St Ojai, CA 93023. GW3CDH R1115 Silent Key. K5OUK R1364 P O Box 11755 Richmond VA 23230. NM4H R930 27 Hillside Circle Lexington SC 29072. W5VGF R1258 710 Begonia St Escondido CA 92027. W5VPV R519 Rt 1 Box 29C Broaddus TX 75929. K7OQZ R174 432 West Lincoln Nampa ID 83651.



### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!

The following have become MARAC members and we welcome them! Good Hunting!

R2061 WI4K Carol Shrader 4744 Thoroughgood Dr Virginia Beach VA 23455 (Isle of Wight). R2062 KC2EE Sid Leben 18202 Shadow Valley Dr Spring TX 77379 (Harris). R2063 KE0EB Gerald Grasso RT 5 Box 606 Lutesville MO 63762 (Bollinger). R2064 KA0JJK Jim Pope P O Box 31575 Aurora CO 80041 (Arapahoe). R2065 W7NEJ John Belenski P O Box 68693 Seattle WA 98168 (King). R2066 WB1EEN Patricia Torrey 542 Summer St Rockland MA 02370-2716 (Plymouth).



### USA-CA SPECIAL HONOR ROLL

CQ MAGAZINE ANNOUNCES THE FOLLOWING ADDITION TO THE USA-CA SPECIAL HONOR ROLL.

MALKIEL "MALIK" WEBMAN, 4X4JU  
USA-CA ALL COUNTIES #558, #1 TO ISRAEL.

CONGRATULATIONS, MALIK!

### COUNTIES NEEDED TO FINISH USA-CA

W6 NAT Bill All Mobile, 20 Meters.  
707-487-4681 after 1700 GMT.

AR Garland GA Barrow Miller Seminole KS  
Wilson Woodson KY Adair Knox MS  
Pontotoc Calhoun MO Gentry Butler NC  
Hertford Columbus NH Cheshire OH Defiance  
Geaugo OK Love PA Sullivan SC Charleston  
WV Lincoln Summers

KY0E Milt

SD HAMLIN

### COUNTIES NEEDED TO FINISH PARTI- CULAR STATES.

K6SLP Larry 714-689-8067

GA Barrow OH Morgan PA Greene VA Craig  
WA6CQW

CO Huerfano FL Franklin ID Gem IL Bureau  
Henry Stark KS Bourbon Cherokee  
Comanche Stanton LA Ayoyelles Catahoula

(Counties to finish particular states con't)

East Carroll MO Osage Ozark NY Chemung  
OK Ellis Harper PA Huntingdon Mifflin SD  
Stanley TX Briscoe Calhoun Sterling Upshur

N9DEH

AR Garland Lawrence Logan Montgomery  
Sebastian MO Cedar Dade Howard Ozark  
Putnam St Clair Webster KS Crawford

K3GWA Mike

CA Kings Tuolumne GA Wilkinson ID  
Clearwater IA Adams Jones Keokuk Louisa  
Lucas Mahaska Mills Sac MO Holt Howell  
Vernon MT Richland NE Blaine Dundy  
Garfield Grant Hooker NY Essex NC  
Franklin Jones Montgomery

W5VDW Sonny 409-825-2491 Mobile, 20 Meters,  
SSB

CO Baca HI Hawaii ME Androscroggin  
Hancock Washington MD Harford Kent NY  
Wayne OR Benton Columbia Curry SC  
Cherokee Saluda Union TN Blount Jackson  
Macon Perry VG Lamoille WA Okanagon  
GA McIntosh KS Doniphan Osborne Jefferson  
Davis Winn MI Wayne Missaukee MN Big  
Stone NE Cuming OK Comanche Grady

JH8GWW Yas

ID Benewah Elmore Madison Washington ME  
Androscroggin Oxford Piscataquis MD  
Somerset Talbot Worcester NJ Cape May  
Hunterdon NM De Baca Mora RI Kent VT  
Caledonia Grand Isle Orleans CO Conejos  
Dolores Fremont Gilpin Washington

K1BM Bob 714 661 6248

AR Randolph HA Hawaii KS Haskell Marshall  
LA Avoyelles Winn MI Ontonagan MT  
Daniels Fallon ND McIntosh Ransom OH  
Medina OR Lake SC Laurens TX Motiey  
Roberts VA Brunswick Westmoreland



# CW

BY HARRY, NFOX

With the miserable weather being experienced throughout most of the country, things have been mighty slow on the net. Casual monitoring indicates some of the regulars are slipping up to the SSB net for a bit of action. \probable called on the CW Net and no one

answered. Maddening. Re-enforces the need to QNC your trips. In the blind if necessary. Let people know you are going out and there will be people to work. I sure liked Bob's(WoHKF) letter in the January issue of the Roadrunner. Right On Bob!

Gene, W1TEE made a swing into GA around Christmas. I was in SC and FL but had a hard time attracting attention. Probably because it was so cold my call only went to the edge of the fruit belt then froze. About April it will thaw out and you will hear my call. Howie, WA4KER at iut again in FL and GA. Mike, K3GWA due in eastern CO Jan 18. Most of these trips are dated when you read it so let me know what you have planned and I will see that it gets in the newsletter.

Things to come: Buster, N0CKC maybe QRV in CO in the "spring". Al, W7ZHL hopes he will be QRV in OR and WA in the spring. I also hope to be QRV in MO and or KS in the spring. Spring being synonymous with warmer weather.

Had a call from a YL who shall remain un-named taking exception to my commandment #7 last month. She claimed my male ego exempted the female gender from having sparks come from their ears. I allowed as how she may have a point and agreed to give equal exposure. So here it is for you gals:

7. Keep thy equipment grounded and well maintained so as to not cause sparks from thy ears, thy curly hair to straighten like dipoles and the possibility of no longer being of service to thy man. So there! 73 and Good Hunting!

## NORTHEAST DISTRICT MINI ADVANCE ANNOUNCEMENT

NOEYK, Kathleen called to ask that the following "preliminary" information be listed in the February Roadrunner regarding the NE District Mini Convention. It will be held in Brunswick ME at the Atrium inn May 27 and 28. Room rates are expected to be \$45/nite, single or double. There will be more information including registration, etc., in a later newsletter.

## QUARTERLY BALLOT TIME NC/MOBILE



Enclosed with this issue is a ballot card for the quarterly vote for Best NC and Mobile operator. Please give a few minutes of your time and VOTE for your choices. As usual, all votes received will be tabulated and will count not only for the quarterly winners, but also will

(quarterly ballot con't)

accumulate towards determination of the Best NC and Best Mobile for the year to be announced at the Annual Convention in July.

WINNERS FOR LAST QUARTER WERE:

SSB- Net Control

1st- W4RKV 2nd- W6PXE 3rd- W3GWA

SSB- Mobile

1st- N9DEH 2nd- KB7QO 3rd- KB5FU

CW- Net Control

1st- WA6VJP 2nd- WA4KER 3rd- W6TZD

CW- Mobile

1st- W1TEE 2nd- W3XE 3rd- NFOX

Congratulations to these and to all who received votes.



## MEMBERS SPEAK!!

ND1H/PA--Greetings from the land of windmills. I am severely limited space-wise for any antenna system. At this time I only have a ground mounted quarter-wave vertical with six radials per band (10-20). In the future I will have either a vertical dipole or a vertical, close spaced two element beam for twenty meters. I know that many of you are anxious for a mobile contact with Holland for a new mobile country. I only call in when I can definitely hear the mobile running. Bear with me and my operating situation. With a little over two hundred counties to go, my intent is usually to give you the country contact. My intent is not to waste time with fictitious contacts. If I call, I can hear. With the summit, my time over here is uncertain. So I will try to contact as many of you as I can. Lets all hope for a rapid increase in solar activity. 73. Bob

W3EYF--I was overwhelmed by all the "get well" cards I received this past month. My thanks to each and everyone who sent them. In many ways, the heart attack was a blessing. I am told that the damage was not too great. I am now an ex-smoker and I really feel great. The confinement and restrictions are

frustrating but that won't last forever. 73--Don

K4WVX--Checked into the CHN the other day for the first time in a few years and got a big kick out of renewing old times. Many of the organizations I was active in during the 60's and 70's have faded out or changed complexions so much they are un-recognizable now. But, the old "county hunters" sound much the same, just the calls are different. I'm MARAC #166 and hold USA-CA 500 #219 dated April 1963 and a low number for 3000 counties. I was very active during the mid 60's and used to give out most of Florida counties from my mobile. When I went to Costa Rica (TI2WX) for 5 years in the early 70's, I only checked in once in awhile trying to work 'em all. Still need a few--18 I believe, to finish up. When (if) I ever retire, I'll spend some time getting the balance. Now, I'm fairly inactive in ham radio, being in a condo and limited to antennaw. I have a vertical on the roof and barefoot YAESU 101B. I certainly don't want to lose contact with the County Hunters. Someday I'll be a CLiff Corner. 73--Jim

WA1JYO--I want to thank all who gave me the last county in a state and the first ones. It seemed as if I'd never get them all but that day finally came and my Worked All Counties Award #518 came in the mail. I especially want to thank Arnie, K9DCJ, for his help and interest in getting me to keep trying and not lose hope when those last counties were so hard to get. I didn't get a chance to write to thank everyone, for Joe, my OM was in the hospital for surgery several times during 1987 and convalescing. He became a silent key Dec. 26th. He was most eager for me to get them all and I think he was happier then I was when the award came in the mail. 73--Vera

KOAYO-- I have received several requests for information on reducing or eliminating ignition noise from the mobile rigs. The only information I can remember is in a newsletter of several years ago and I have not had the time to scour the files. I'm sure that someone out there in RADIO LAND has worked on this problem and cutout the noise in YOUR rig so how about dropping me a line with the details. I'll put it in the newsletter and we can help out a county hunter friend. Who knows, maybe he will be in one of your counties and be able to HEAR YOU after he gets your help.

Speaking of HELP...I have also had a request for a "calendar" of up coming events, mini's, maxi's, in-betweenies, contests, mobile trips, etc. How about one of you folks grabbing this by the horns and acting as a "Calendar Editor" for me with a monthly update. It doesn't have to be fancy, "just the facts 'mam". Thanks for all the notes regarding the new Roadrunner. I appreciate the input. 73--Bob

## TIME TO RE-CONSIDER???

Some time ago, while serving as the presiding officer of the county fire fighters association (a Texas Non-Profit Corporation), I suggested that the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association and the prevailing practices of the officers and board of directors be re-evaluated to insure that we were in substantial compliance with the association charter. The reaction which resulted was not anticipated. There was an immediate and vicious cry accusing me of nearly every petty crime one can imagine. My naivete and that experience should have taught me something about human nature. It did, that is, that if one chooses to make a suggestion, he must be prepared to take the "heat"!! It is with that lesson in mind that I dare to make a few suggestions concerning the ME/CHN.

NET CONTROL. Some aspects of the net control matter have been covered by others. There are two remaining matters that bear examination. One, the matter of keeping mobile stations on the list ad infinitum and, two, the practice of reserving the last two minutes of a mobile run for DX and mobiles only. I concede that we have a large number of sales persons and regular travellers who should be kept on the list, but we also know that there are mobileers who check in regularly and regularly run only one time. Those stations sometimes ask not to be placed on the list or check out without saying if they will run other counties. To keep them on the list after they have failed to respond on two occasions should result in removal from the list of mobile stations. Several weeks ago, I pickup Net Control and was given 19 mobile stations. I had been listening on a monitor for most of the morning and knew that six of those stations had run only one time. Going through the list resulted in only 5 stations responding. I believe the mobiles should be given all possible advantage, but we also need to use the time reasonably well.

I have also noted that some control stations seem to break into the mobile station's run at about eight minutes and tell him to call for "DX and mobiles only". That has become a pet

peeve with me because I'm working "20meters, all mobile" on my second time around. I daresay that working Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana is just as difficult for me as it is for a DX station to work counties. I believe the DX stations should be accommodated when we know that some are on the air, but when we are not hearing DX don't impose the limitation as a matter of habit.

Net procedures sometimes change by application of the same doctrine that gets words in Webster's Dictionary--because of common usage. Webster excludes some words for the obvious reasons--vulgarity and obsolescence. I find myself using some words that should be relegated to the obsolete or their use better defined. Here are a few:

"Query"-"Information"-"Mobile Contact"-"Direct"---all are over-used to the detriment of all concerned. Use of the term "direct" evades my understanding; it appears to be a statement that "I want to work the mobile without help, but I want everyone to standby so that I can have a clear channel".

These are my opinions, I will bore you no more!!

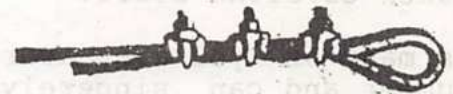
SONNY-W5VDW

## Wire rope clips

John Otis, N5BCK

The figure below shows two wrong methods and the right method of attaching wire rope clips. For safety, the U-bolts of clips must all be on the *dead* end of the wire.

— Tidelands ARS, Texas City, TX



**CORRECT WAY** — U-Bolt of all clips on dead end of rope.



**INCORRECT WAY** — U-Bolt of all clips on live end of rope.



**INCORRECT WAY** — Do not stagger clips.



# MOBILE QSL BUREAU

Post Office Box 6436  
Florence, South Carolina 29501

From the Bureau Drawer:

The Mobile QSL Bureau is pleased to announce the Third Time Around Award has been earned by VE3RN, Lee Foster, as of October 29, 1987. Congratulations to you from both Jerry and I, Lee!

In addition, Lee, VE3RN, also completed the Master County Hunter Award and has been issued his plaque dated November 20, 1987. Glen Lavin has been issued the Master County Hunter award as well dated November 22, 1987. This award, commonly known as Bingo, is difficult to earn and both deserve a pat on the back for being able to complete it! Congratulations!

At the request of many, we have compiled a listing of those we know have received the Third Time Around Award as follows:

1. W7KOI	Earl Shobe	No Date	8. NFØX	Harry Brundridge	4/5/85
2. W8WT	Les Jeffery	No Date	9. N7AKT	Dick Scott	7/10/85
3. K9DCJ	Arnie Bachman	No Date	10. WA1UVX	Robert McCarthy	7/26/85
4. WAØDCQ	Dick Baker	No Date	11. K5RPC	Ray Phillips	8/26/85
5. WA2GPT	Beatrice Dietz	No Date	12. WA3TUC	Paul Bugen	10/25/85
6. WA6MAR	Karl Adkins	No Date	13. KK5P	James Farner	7/10/86
7. VE3BFJ	Orv Johnson	12/25/84	14. VE3RN	H. Lee Foster	10/29/87

Master County Hunter Plaques have been awarded to the following:

W7KOI	Earl Shobe	7/7/83	K9DCJ	Arnie Bachman	12/6/86
VE3BFJ	Orv Johnson	1/9/86	WA3TUC	Paul Bugen	1/12/87
KK5P	James Farner	7/29/86	VE3RN	H. Lee Foster	11/20/87
WDX4KEF	Charles Loftus	10/16/86	N9BDM	Glen Lavin	11/22/87

Any corrections or additions to the above would be appreciated. These two awards are sponsored by the Mobile QSL Bureau. A copy of the current rules for the awards together with information on the use of the Bureau, etc. can be had for a SASE sent to the Mobile QSL Bureau, P. O. Box 6436, Florence, South Carolina 29502.

As many of you are aware, we moved to SC during the heat of July last summer and can sincerely say, we enjoy living here. It has been quite comical for the last few days, however, as SC is trying to thaw out after a rare sleet storm that deposited about 8 inches of icy stuff in our area! As one of the main reasons we moved here was to get out of this type of weather having lived in Iowa for many years. Guess we just brought it along with us. I have the feeling the natives do not appreciate it! No first class mail was received in the area for several days because of the highway conditions, but things seem to be getting back to normal.

73's and Good Hunting from the Mobile QSL Bureau.



# TEXAS MINI



**MARCH 11-12, 1988**

**WHERE? RAMADA INN, I-35 AND TEASLEY ROAD EXIT, DENTON TX**

**TELEPHONE 817-387-0591**

**ONE OF THE PRIZES WILL BE AN AFGAN BLANKET!!**

**DO YOU WANT ME TO MAKE RESERVATIONS? YES----- NO-----**

**YOU CAN MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS THROUGH THE RAMADA INN IN DENTON OR THE RESERVATION CENTER 1-800-2-RAMADA**

**ROOMS ARE \$33.80 (TAX INCLUDED) PER ROOM, SINGLE OR DOUBLE**

**REGISTRATION FEE - OM AND YL \$12 ONE PERSON \$10**

**REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES PRIZES PLUS COFFEE AND DONUTS IN THE MORNING.**

**SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER (BUFFET) WILL BE \$15 AND WILL INCLUDE A CHOICE OF 3 MEATS, 3 VEGETABLES, SALAD AND POTATOE.**

NAME- OM \_\_\_\_\_ CALL \_\_\_\_\_  
 YL \_\_\_\_\_ CALL \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**SEND RESERVATIONS TO CHUCK DOBBINS (KA5PVB)  
 1902 MISSION CREEK CIRCLE HOUSTON TX 77084  
 PHONE 713-579-7932**

20th MARAC NATIONAL CONVENTION  
GATEWAY TO THE MIDWEST  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA  
July 20-July 24, 1988  
Ramada Inn-South

MARAC'S Annual Convention is only six months away!!! Indianapolis and the Hoosier County Hunters are proud to host this 20th Annual Convention and look forward to seeing our many friends, both old and new.

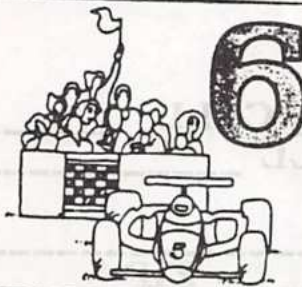
Indianapolis is centrally located for most county hunters, so we expect and have heard that many will be in attendance.

There is something for everyone--if you want to take advantage.

1. \$45.00 per room per night for 1, 2, 3, or 4 people.
2. Large hospitality room with a wet bar.
3. Extra hospitality room for those that want to visit and talk of things other than county hunting.
4. Pre-convention and convention prizes.
5. Antenna Seminar-W9UCW Barry Boothe
6. Hoosier Down-Home Banquet at poolside.
7. Golf Roundup
8. RV facilities close-by.
9. Visit to Conner Prairie Early Settlement Village.
10. Downtown shopping, for the ladies, at the Circle and famous Union Station.
11. Indianapolis Motor Speedway and Museum--a must for everyone!!
12. Saturday evening banquet- PRIZES AND AWARDS.
13. Indianapolis Zoo-opening scheduled for this June.

More to come in the March County Line Road Runner, so make your plans for INDY IN JULY.

HERB-WD9GBH CONVENOR  
DAVE-N9AUV REGISTRATION



The Indianapolis Motor Speedway—Home of the "500." See the venerated 2½-mile oval from the same vantage point as past winners Andretti, Mears, Sneva and Unser, as you tour the track that has tested drivers' mettle and automotive metal since 1911. Annually hosting the largest single day crowd assembled for any sporting event in the world, the seats echo with cheers of more than 400,000 fans. A visit to the Speedway Museum captures the spectacle of the "500" from first winner Ray Harroun through A.J. Foyt's four victories, and the nostalgic eras of the Novi and the Turbine.



MOBILE AMATEUR RADIO AWARDS CLUB, INC. Awards Custodian Bill Nash, W00WY  
6604 Hounds Run So. Mobile, Alabama 36608 205+460-0811 January 12, 1988

Hello again County Hunters,

The awards are still coming in as strong as ever. Many new ones again this week. I see a lot of you with your MARAC membership about to expire. Suggest you check it and keep it active so that you get the latest information on awards via the N/L each month. As of now, we have processed 850+ awards and info requests since September. Still making progress on getting the computer to do all the record keeping and printing of award certificates. Looking up records is a big part of the job.

All awards are now being sent with a processing date. This most of the time will be the date the application is received. Processing will be done on line and real time. Talking with Bob Dyson, there will be new pages of award information coming up in the next several issues PLUS a special awards edition during February. This will contain (at least) a complete rewrite of the awards guidelines. Don't miss it.

I am happy to announce that KC3X did double duty and got two Last County awards and plaques at the same time for transmitting 25 and 50 Last Counties. K4ELK filled my mail box and got the Mobile Achievement award, #40, Cat. II for transmitting from all FL counties AND #41, Cat III for working all DE counties AND #42, Cat I for working the same mobile in all DE Counties. Right after that K5VYT got the Mobile Award, Cat 1 Red Seal and ribbons for transmitting from 25 states. Then K5OUK claimed USA Counties award # 8 as of 1/2/88 with N9BDM following two days later with USA Counties award #9. Glen also got the Worked All Counties Second Time award # 60 with plaque as of 1/4/88. Winging it's way to Glen's QTH also is an Associate Award #155 as the newest A number in the club. Congrats to all award winners.

At this point, a little change of plans notice is due. Loretta and I had hoped that we would be able to wing our way to Hawaii this spring but due to some other activities, we won't be able to accomplish that this year. So our travel plans have been changed. Other news-circle the 11th-12th of March on your calendar as the dates of the Texas Mini. KA5PVB as your host and chairman. Full info in the January N/L. Hope to see you there. I plan to attend the Mini in Texas in March and then hope to take a swing thru Minnesota and the Dakotas in April or May. So hope to get a little road time this year. Right now, I need to get the rig fixed if I can ever find the time. Pretty hard to finish them all when your are off the air.

REMINDER: Don't send any cash to me. I have been writing a personal check for all cash received but I am using too many printed checks. Listen to my plea. our bank account is in Minnesota. all deposits are made via US Mail. And I won't send any money thru the mail. Til now, I have written checks for cash but won't after 1/1/88. Cash will be returned to you. It's just too hard to handle. Make checks to: MARAC, INC..

Send me your last counties needed. I can list a few entries on this flver when I have room. Also list trip routes. Goes with awards each week.

#### NEEDS

W3IJT Hawaii, HI; Fayette, IA; Marshall, SD; Highland, VA; Ashland, WI 1/12

Well that's about all I have room for on this sheet. Have a good day, a good month, and a good year.

73 de Bill, W00WY

## AWARDS ENHANCEMENTS

The Custodian and Awards Committee are pleased to announce MARAC Award enhancements. These and other clarifications will be available in a new Awards Guidelines available sometime after the first of the year.

First of all - The club has many members who are close and very close to achieving their fourth Last County Award, Cat. 3. This has been a MARAC Mobile Plaque in the past. This Award and Plaque is issued by MARAC for transmitting Twenty Five Last Counties. By saying the fourth such award, this means that we have several members who are close to transmitting their 100th Last County.

Effective immediately, the Last County Award, Category III Plaque for transmitting 100 Last Counties will be the MARAC Special Plaque. Appropriate plates will be issued at each Twenty five county interval through last county #375 to be affixed to the MARAC Special Plaque. Each new sequence of 300 Last Counties will have a new MARAC Special Plaque and plates issued. As in the past, the Cat. 3 award and Plaque must be applied for by submitting a list of the Last County Category 1 and Category 2 awards that you have received. List the Award #, the Seal, and the Award date. These will be checked with the listings maintained by MARAC. You must list the specific awards to be used in certifying eligibility for this award. This requirement must be met because of possible future changes to the awards program.

For those County Hunters that have over 75 Last Counties issued at the present time, your next request for a Last County Plaque, Cat. 3 at any 25 County increment will cause an issuance of the MARAC Special Plaque with whatever plates are appropriate. For example, if you are about to apply for the Cat. 3 plaque for 175 Last Counties, you will receive the MARAC Special Plaque for 100 Last Counties with plates for 125, 150 and 175 Last Counties. If you already have over 375 Last Counties, you would receive the MARAC Special Plaque for 400 plus the plates for the increment that you are applying for. The MARAC Mobile Plaque will continue to be issued upon request with the lists submitted for Twenty Five, Fifty, or 75 Last Counties.

Another enhancement to the awards program is the formalizing of the USA Counties Award for USA-CA All County holders.

Effective immediately, the USA Counties Award is available to holders of the USA-CA All Counties award. If you hold a USA-CA All Counties number, simply apply to the MARAC Custodian noting your USA-CA All Counties award number and date and submit with the appropriate fees. The basic certificate fee applies. If you would like the MARAC Special Plaque appropriately engraved, submit the fee for the MARAC Special Plaque and you will receive both the award and the MARAC Special Plaque.

If you have any suggestions or ideas for enhancements to the Awards Program, please drop me a note and explain your idea. I'll try to answer all letters. In the meantime, keep watching for the N/L where all new announcements will be made. Significant news to come through these columns.

One last plea, if you are requesting Last County Application Blanks, I can send about 12 for a single stamp. If you want more, send # 10 SASE with more stamps, ie 39¢ for 24 blanks, 56¢ for 36, etc. Thanks.

Welcome to 1988 and Good Hunting to you all this year.

73 de Bill. WOOWY

# AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

## NEW AWARDS THROUGH 1/15/88

The Awards Custodian is happy to announce the award recipients as listed below.

12/14 Last County, Cat 3 Award/Plaque to K2POF-Transmitted 25 Last Counties  
 12/14 Mobile Achievement, Cat III #39 to WDX1AM-Heard KB7QO in all DE Countys  
 12/14 Jack Scroggins #5 Red & Blue for 50 Holders to WDX4KEF  
 12/14 Mobile Achievement, Cat II #38 to WA9QNI-Gave out all Texas Counties  
 12/15 Last County, Cat 3 Award/Plaque to WA9QNI-Transmitted 50 Last Counties  
 12/20 Last County, Cat 2 Award/Plaque to WA3QNT from W1TEE for All Counties  
 12/23 Mobile Award, Cat 2 to WT4S - Worked KB7QO in 15 States.  
 12/23 Last County, Cat 3 Award/Plaque to ND1H - Transmitted 25 Last Counties  
 12/31 Last County, Cat 2 Award to KB7QO from KC9MB for All Counties  
 12/31 Last County, Cat 3 Award/Plaque to KC3X - Transmitted 25 Last Counties  
 12/31 Last County, Cat 3 Award/Plaque to KC3X - Transmitted 50 Last Counties  
 12/31 Mobile Achievement, Cat II #40 to K4ELK-Gave out all Florida Counties  
 12/31 Mobile Achievement, Cat III #41 K4ELK worked WA2GPT in all DE Counties  
 12/31 Mobile Achievement, Cat I #42 K4ELK worked WA2GPT/Mobile All DE Countys  
 1/2 Mobile Award, Cat I Red w/Ribbons to K5VYT Transmitted 25 States  
 1/2 USA Counties Award & Plaque #8 to K5OUK  
 1/4 USA Counties Award #9 to N9BDM  
 1/4 Worked All Counties Second Time Award/Plaque # 60 to N9BDM  
 1/4 Associate Award #155 to N9BDM  
 1/4 Cliff Corne #376 Award to N9BDM  
 1/8 Union County #15 Award to WB2HXZ.  
 1/13 Worked All Counties Second Time Award #61 to WA1CXE.  
 1/13 Jack Scroggins Award #36 to W2BUO  
 1/14 Union County #16 Award to KA4SAX.  
 1/14 Union County #17 Award to K4ELK  
 1/14 Mobile Award, Cat 3 Award to K4ELK - Transmitted 100 Counties  
 1/15 M-50-M Award #189 w/Red & Blue Seals to KE7GI  
 1/15 Cliff Corne #377 Award to KABVE  
 1/15 Red & Blue Seals for Associate Award #144 to KABVVE

Congratulations to all the Award Winners as Listed. I hope that you all will try your skills in working for the new Five Band Counties Award.

73 de Bill, W00WY  
 MARAC Awards Custodian

### LAST COUNTY AWARD APPLICATION

COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ BAND \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CALL (Station Receiving County) Name

TO: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CALL (Station Giving Out County) Name

\_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

AWARD # \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ SEAL \_\_\_\_\_ Seq # \_\_\_\_\_

### LAST COUNTY AWARD

COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_ Band \_\_\_\_\_

FROM CALL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

TO CALL NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Award # \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEAL \_\_\_\_\_

Seq# \_\_\_\_\_

Custodian \_\_\_\_\_

FILL IN COMPLETELY, EXCEPT FOR AWARD #, SEAL AND CUSTODIAN SIGNATURE.



THE MOBILE AMATEUR RADIO AWARDS CLUB, INC.

Presents The

# Five Band Counties Award

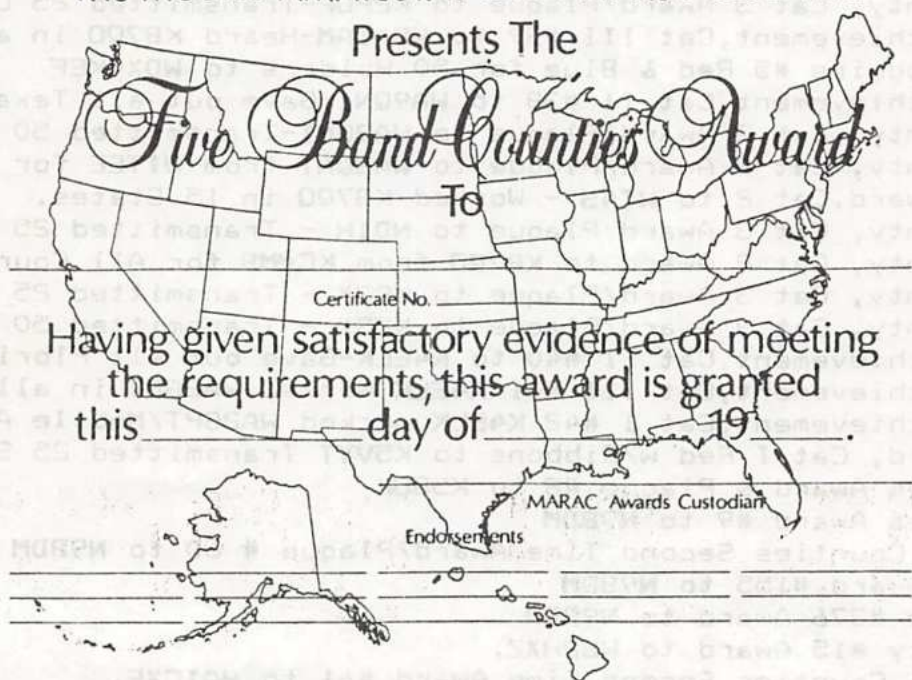
To

Certificate No. \_\_\_\_\_

Having given satisfactory evidence of meeting the requirements, this award is granted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_.

MARAC Awards Custodian

Endorsements \_\_\_\_\_



## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT



The MARAC Board of Directors, The Officers, The Award Advisory Committee and the Awards Custodian are pleased to announce the availability of The FIVE BAND COUNTIES AWARD. This new award will be very sought after as it will indicate to all that the recipient is a dedicated Amateur and County Hunter.

The award certificate is printed in a four color print process and will include the flags of all fifty United States in full color along with the MARAC flags. The award printing is done in an overprint of a map of the United States which is done on a light contrasting background. The award certificate is printed on a light colored parchment paper. The size of the award is 16" X 22" which is suitable for framing in a standard frame. This award will show very well in any radio room and will be a very positive addition to your collection.

Available in plateaus and on multiple bands, it may be the award that makes it easier for DXers to participate more actively in County Hunting. The award certificate is mailed in a mailing tube and the recipient will be able to use the same mailing tube to return the certificate for future updates.

The full rules for this new award are contained on the following pages. Happy Hunting for the new FIVE BAND COUNTIES AWARD.

**FIVE BAND COUNTIES AWARD** This MARAC award is issued for confirmed contacts with amateur radio stations in U.S. Counties on the 80/75, 40, 20, 15 or 10 meter bands. It is available to SWLs on a heard basis. Confirmed contacts made under any call or from any QTH, or any time frame may be used. Unless otherwise stated, all USA-CA rules apply. Contacts made from within the same vehicle are not admissible. This award is available on a heard basis provided all reports heard are confirmed.

The basic certificate is issued for 1500 confirmed counties on any one band. Seal and ribbons plus MARAC Special Plaque for ALL counties on each band. Additional endorsements for 1500 and ALL Counties on each additional band. The MARAC FBCA Trophy will be presented at an MARAC Annual convention for all counties confirmed on all five bands. Each applicant for the FBCA Trophy will receive a trophy for confirming all counties on each of the five bands. The trophy will be permanently retained by the recipient. All FBCA awards are sequentially numbered. Each plateau / band / mode endorsement will be numbered. Mode endorsements are limited to SSB and CW. A Mobile endorsement can be made for any band.

**Fees**

**Fees.** The basic FBAC application fee is required for the first application. Each subsequent upgrade / endorsement will require the MARAC processing fee. The MARAC Special Plaque fee is required for the plaque for completing each band. When the MARAC Special Plaque is requested, the processing fee is waived. No fee for the MARAC FBCA Trophy. The trophy fee is paid for by the MARAC Special Plaque fees paid for by the applicant.

**Basic Fee**

- FBCA basic application fee for current members...\$10.
- FBCA basic application fee for non members..... 20.

**Processing Fee**

Any subsequent endorsement after the Basic fee has been paid:

- For current members.....\$2.
- For non-current or non-members..... 3.

**MARAC Special Plaque**

- For current members.....\$30.
- For non-current or non-members..... 50.

### Application Procedure

- For each band, submit application for confirmed contacts using a USA-CA Record & Application Book or similar form for each band. Each application must contain a statement that confirmation of contacts has been verified by the endorser.
- List each county within state showing Call worked, Date, Band and Mode of contact.
- Use a separate book or form for each band.
- Submit with the appropriate fees to the MARAC Custodian with the Application and Certification form completed.
- Send the original book or new book as appropriate with the original award certificate to the MARAC Custodian for subsequent endorsements.
- Computer printouts or handwritten documents are acceptable as long as they contain the required information.
- The record book or listing may be returned to the applicant after the custodians review, provided return postage has been sent with the application. The application and endorsement form will be retained by the Custodian.

### Initial Application Period

In order to provide an equal opportunity for all applicants to receive low award numbers, there shall be an initial application period lasting from the announcement date until May 1, 1988.

All applications received during the IAP will be held until May 1, 1988. All applications will be divided into two groups:

Group A - This group will consist of applications for All Counties on one or more bands.

Group B - This group will consist of applications for 1500 counties on one or more bands.

Within each group a drawing for the processing sequence will be made. Each person's applications will be processed in its entirety before processing other applications.

After all Group A applications are processed, a similar drawing for group B applications will be made and processed in the same manner as for group A.

Example: If a person applies for All Counties on 40 meters and 1500 County Endorsements for 75 and 20 Meters, then that application will be processed in its entirety as a part of group A before any group B applications are processed.

# OPERATING



# GUIDELINES

3.10 WHEN MOBILES MAY CHECK-IN - Mobiles should check into the Net when the NCS calls for check-ins. Alternately, the mobile should break the NCS or Relay Station, between mobile runs, and ask to be checked-in.

3.11 NCS PRIORITIES - The NCS should use the following priorities in handling the business of the net:  
.1 - Emergency traffic, of course. .2 - Assisting mobiles to run counties. .3 - Information breaks to announce a mobile running off the net frequency. That mobile is dangling in the breeze until an announcement is made on the net. .4 - Any request or query from a mobile. Note- mobiles wanting a contact for county credit should try to get it by working the mobile that is running. Ask the NCS for a contact only when you can't hear the other mobile. .5 - Queries for last counties or for one of the last 50 in the country. .6 - Other queries and comments have no priority.

3.12 KEEPING A LIST OF MOBILES - One of the difficult but very important duties of the NCS is to keep an orderly list of mobiles in the order in which they should run. Suggestions for maintaining the list are as follows: .1 - Start with a list of mobiles arranged in the order in which they will be called to run their counties. .2 - When a mobile runs a county, move the call of that mobile from the top of the list to the end of the list. .3 - Add new mobile check-ins to the end of the list. .4 - If a mobile runs off frequency, leave that call in place on the list. That is, an off frequency run does not count as a turn on the Net. .5 - If a mobile does not respond when called, call the mobile again in 20 or 30 minutes. After two or three no shows, remove that call from the list. If that mobile shows up later, replace his call near the top of the list. .6 - Don't give list priority to mobiles on special trips or on county lines. Do be especially attentive to their needs for making contacts, moving off frequency, etc.

3.13 - STARTING A MOBILE RUN The NCS calls the mobile and determines that the mobile is ready to run a county. If the NCS doesn't have good copy on the mobile, the NCS may ask the Relay station or some other station, with good copy, to handle the run. Assuming that the NCS is handling the run, the NCS announces "For information of the net, W5XYZ mobile is going to run ABCD county TX." The Relay station is then asked to repeat the announcement.

The NCS then starts the mobile run by --"W5XYZ this is W1ABC. Your starting time is 1111Z and you are (signal report) from me." The mobile then responds. The mobile acknowledges the report from the mobile and says "go ahead and run ABCD county TX for the net" Let me know when you need relays".

3.14 THE MOBILE RUN - After receiving a starting time from the NCS, the mobile has the option of putting out a general call or directed calls to selected stations or groups of stations. A typical call maybe --"QRZ DX and mobiles only, W5XYZ, ABCD county TX."

The mobile acknowledges each calling station with the call sign and a signal report. The calling station, in turn, acknowledges the signal report and replies to the mobile with a signal report. The mobile acknowledges the returned report and puts out another "QRZ". The cycle is repeated until an exchange has been made with all the calling stations or until the allotted time has expired. The mobile should repeat its call and county several times during the run.

It is important that the county and mobile call sign be announced at frequent intervals. This will help to minimize the "what's the call/county queries.

(CONTINUED NEXT MONTH)

# The County Line Road Runner



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## THE COUNTY LINE ROAD RUNNER

Editor, R. Dyson, KOAYO  
8943 S. Overhill Circle  
De Soto, KS 66018

THIRD CLASS MAIL  
PERMIT NO. 15  
DE SOTO, KS 66018

Member



R1978 NODXH 8805 T  
MARY MANN  
1618 W PINE ST  
STILLWATER MN 55082

A ROAD RUNNER IS A  
VERY FAST BIRD!!