

COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

Published Monthly By the Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club, Inc.
An ARRL Affiliated Club

Editor R. Dyson K0AYO 8943 Overhill Circle DeSoto Kansas 66018
(913-583-3212)

SSB Net 14.336 CW Net 14.056.5

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May 1, 1994

(See Meeting Minutes For Location of Next Months Meeting)

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Mesquite, TX 75149-6341; Vice President: Jerry Weaver
WD5JGS RRI Box 267 Denison, TX 75020-9613; Secretary:
Don Magers KF5WL 406 Cherry Park Dr Sherman, TX
75090-6709; Treasurer: Diane Landreth KI5TV Rt 2 Box
43B Leonard, TX 75452.

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75452; Bill Peate W5MW 13432 Emeline St Dallas, TX
75234-5036.

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P O Box 941 Johnstown, NY 12095; GREAT LAKES: John
Sebastian N8BGF 758 Southwind Dr Fairfield, OH 45014;
NORTH CENTRAL: Shel Mann N0DRX 1618 West Pine St
Stillwater, MN 55082; SOUTH EAST: Gene Tyree N4ANV
5222 Sumac Circle Fayetteville, NC 28304;
SOUTH CENTRAL: Joyce Boothe WB9NUL Rt 6 Box 748A
Harlingen, TX 78552.

Other Members of the Board

Immediate Past President: Don Strom WA0LKL 11421
Johnson Circle Bloomington, MN 55437; Newsletter
Editor: Bob Dyson K0AYO 8943 Overhill Circle De Soto
KS 66018-9173; Awards Chairman: Van "Pete" Peterson
K4QFK P O Box 48307 Cumberland NC 28331.

Awards Committee

Chairman: K4QFK; North East District WB2NFB; South
East District KB4XX; Great Lakes District N8EMV; North
Central District KF9FU; South Central District WB9NUL;
Pacific District W7GVF

Newsletter Article Deadline

JUN 20, 1994

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CQ - CW

By Harry, NFOX

After inviting Flattop to ride along to the Dayton Hamvention I had almost decided that was a mistake. The band was lousy, the weather was worse and being a country guy, Flattop was not prepared for the crush of humanity inherent to the Dayton Bash. He was in a foul mood as he fought his way to the table I had risked life and limb to save. He managed without spilling the big orange or dripping the mustard from the greasy dogs. The "Dayton Sunshine" did nothing to soften his foul mood. I didn't tell him getting soaking wet was a rite of passage at Dayton. He plopped wearily into the broken chair. This was his first time for Dayton and my failure to prepare him properly was putting a severe strain on our friendship. I had thought leaving out all those good parts would allow him to discover new horizons. Not to be.

He failed to appreciate the joy of walking a five acre lot full of useless goodies in a pouring rain. His eyes did show a spark of life when he spotted a large tent boldly displaying "PARTS" banner. As he approached the block long table covered with thousands of strange looking objects, the Grease Ball behind the table saw DOLLAR SIGNS WRITTEN ALL OVER Flattop. "YESSIR", he gushed in a tone akin to a bit player in the "GODFATHER", "Parts, parts we got parts. What kinda computer ya got?" I was able to prevent bodily harm to both of us by prying Flattop's hands from the table just as he was about to bury Grease Ball with the table contents. His blood pressure dropped a few points when we elbowed our way to the MFJ booth inside the arena where a 10 year old girl and her dad were checking out the latest MFJ Keyer. The little gal was drawing a crowd by pounding out the instruction sheet at 35 WPM. "NO-CODES" were in awe of her skills. Her dad was trying to control the crowd that was asking for autographs on their copy of "HOW TO BECOME A HAM WITHOUT REALLY TRYING". He was also cheered by Jim, WOFF, who was trying to stay dry as he hawked a van full of ancient ham gear. Not by the gear, but by a badge Jim was wearing: "KNOW CODE".

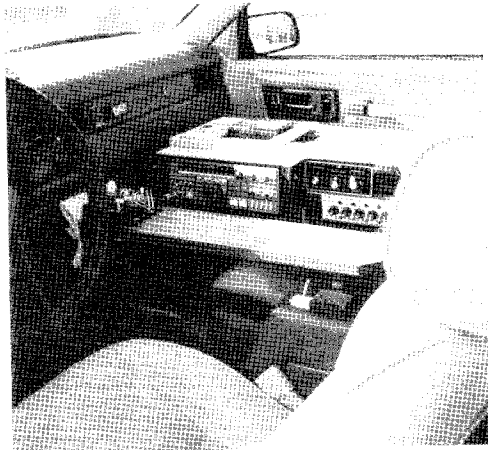
On the way home, I reminded Flattop of all the fun we had and did he want to do it again next year? "Only if I can leave Tinkerbell home again. Maybe by that time she will be ready to start learning the numbers".

I again sat through the CH slide and audio show at the forum. It still has not been up-dated and still refuses to acknowledge any mode but SSB. I think it was about 5 years ago that I heard MARAC say it was going to be up-dated. So I decided I would put together my own slide and audio show featuring only CW CH and CW County Hunters. CW County Hunters will soon be getting a letter from me asking for

your help in the way of slides (35MM) showing your rig installation in your vehicle, antenna(s), and if you can, get yourself in either the operating position or by the antennas. For those unfortunate enough to not attend the MARAC Convention at Springfield, I sure would appreciate a slide or two from you. At Springfield, I will be taking pictures, so wash your vehicle.

You sure don't need me to tell you that props are lousy and they are going to get worse for a couple more years. But hang in there, time will heal. Under the present conditions, CW is still the best mode to make a QSO. Mobiles you cannot hear on SSB will pop through on CW. Harken!

Get your registration for the Springfield MARAC Convention. For special interest to all you "NO CODE" types, my wife will show you how to learn the code and get your exercise at the same time. Don't miss her dance to "THE RHYTHM OF THE CODE"!



Bud, W0UBT, send along this photo of his neat mobile set-up. It's obvious Bud travels without a YL or else she is banned to the rear seat! Thanks Bud.

Address Changes, Corrections New Members

(Editor's Note: Effectively immediately!! I will accept address changes ONLY from the MARAC Secretary or DIRECT from the individual involved. Previously, I have been using changes from several other sources and I have had many incorrect.)

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R1814 KA3DRO 150 Corkwood Blvd Homosassa FL 34446-7741
R1241 N9ATA 1205 Locust St Oshkosh WI 54901-3205
R1582 KB5WN 100 Poplar St Fort Mill SC 29715
R1611 W4RKY 472 Sassafraz Cir Munford TN 38058
R2608 AB4VJ 3835 Guess Rd Durham NC 27705
R1137 WAS WB0WZV NOW KFOE 3801 S Coffman Ave Casper WY 82604 (Natrona)
R992 KB4XK 283 Thomas Dr Semora NC 27343
R1914 KM4HW 8620 NW 13th St % Frederick # 187 Gainesville FL 32606
R655 KC8EM 7480 Campground St Helen MI 48656

R1274 KM4W 99 Smoke Rise Circle Manchester TN 37355-9713
R799 W0UM 5975 Candace Inver Grove Heights MN 55076-4488
C96 KB7RE 2206 E Lenora St Mesa AZ 85213 (Maricopa)
R1871 K5IID 309 W 5th St Williamstown WV 26187 (Wood)
R196 W5VEO 135 Sisterdale Rd Boerne TX 78006-5921 (Kendall)
R255 N2LJG 4776 Lilydale Hamburg NY 14075 (Erie)
R257 W1XN 503 Olive St Medina NY 14103 (Orleans)
R316 W2QKJ Rd 6 Oak Forest Box 707 Pleasantville NJ 08232 (Atlantic)
R358 WA2PFF Address Unknown
R361 WB2IMK 4-14 Stoneleigh Ave Carmel NY 10512 (Putnam)
R445 AH2W 2847 County Rt 26 West Monroe NY 13167 (Oswego)
R548 1619 Edwards NE Canton OH 44205 (Stark)
R640 AH2N 13724 Greenbriar Dr Woodbridge VA 22193 (Pr William)
R697 WB5BBS 7507 Oxfordshire Spring TX 77379 (Harris)
R766 WA2JOC 55 Valley W Rd Danville PA 17821 (Montour)
R810 W8ILC 5444 Pisgah Rd Tipp City OH 45371 (Miami)
R876 WB2OEY 2004 SE 21 Ct Cape Coral FL 33990 (Lee)
R917 AH6IP P O Box 4691 Medford OR 97501 (Jackson)
R924 WAS WB22OJX NOW KC2P 260 Hilltop Dr Elma NY 14059 (Erie)
R954 KB2LH 4000 Horseshoe Bend Matthews NC 28105 (Mecklenburg)
R1115 NF9A P O Box 325 Rhinelander WI 54501-0320 (Oncida)
R1291 K2MF 71 Hazen Ct APT 13 wayne NJ 07470-3353 (Passaic)
R1328 WA2NEW 326 4th St Beach Haven NJ 08008 (Ocean)
R1364 K5OUK 972 Barrons Village Lane Roanoke VA 24019-2347 (Roanoke)
R1469 KC2PQ Rt 5 Box 243 Oswego NY 13126 (Oswego)
R1521 KA2K 3492 Nelson Plaza E Canastota NY 13032 (Madison)
R1580 WA4HIG 205 Pequot Trail E Greenwich RI 02818-1740 (Bristol)
R1706 WAS NG2T NOW AA5AH

R1756 K2IDF 1252 Clarendon Ct Annapolis MD 21403 (Anne Arundel)
R1793 KK2J Address Unknown

R1833 KC7YE 4625 Hoyt Ave Everett WA 98203 (Snohomish)
R1956 K9AGB Rt 1 Box 15 Mound Rd Jacksonville IL 62650 (Morgan)
R2014 K9UA 11019 Reeves Rd Indianapolis IN 46231 (Marion)
R2154 VE3FNM 93 Lavinia Ave Apt 514 Toronto Ont Canada M6S 3H9
R2364 WAS KB2LJH NOW N2MED
R2494 KD8MK 8300 Walnut Creek Dr Grand Blanc MI 48439-2071 (Genesee)
R2508 N9IHZ New Zip Code 60176-0214
R2509 KA7AKJ 2193 W Strafford Dr Chandler AZ 85224-1143 (Maricopa)
R2563 KB2PWS New Zip Code 10312-2452

NEW MEMBERS

R2610 VE7JMC Josephine Mc Cuaig 835 Smith Ave Coquitlam BC Canada V3J 2X4
R2611 KE4EYU Dolly Hughes 100 Davis Dr Columbia TN 38401 (Maury)
R2612 N4CD Bob Voss 3133 Charring Cross Plano TX 75025 (Collin)
R2613 W7EYE C E Budd Thurston P O Box 89 Marsing MI 83639-0089 (Owyhee)

R2614 VE1BES Stan Heinsma RR 2 Scotsburn NS Canada B0K 1R0

Silent Key

With sadness we announce another Silent Key.
AA4LB, Frank Blanchard Jr, MARAC R2293, USACA 778.



"This gets the v.f.o. stable in no time . . ."

**FOURTH TIME AROUND
ANNOUNCEMENT**

The B&B Shop is pleased to announce
the following winner of the

**IV
AWARD**

The Fourth Time Award # 29
is awarded to

**N9CHU
ACE BURDETT
APRIL 30, 1994**

Endorsed: MIXED MODES
MIXED BANDS

**FOURTH TIME AROUND
ANNOUNCEMENT**

The B&B Shop is pleased to announce
the following winner of the

**IV
AWARD**

The Fourth Time Award # 30
is awarded to

**KZ2P
JAMES GRANDINETTI
MAY 5, 1994**

Endorsed: ALL SSB
MIXED BANDS

**FIFTH TIME AROUND
ANNOUNCEMENT**

The B&B Shop
is pleased to announce
the following winner of the

**FIFTH TIME AROUND
AWARD**

The Fifth Time Award # 14
is awarded to

**N7BKW
DAVID VIG
April 28, 1994**

Endorsed: ALL SSB
MIXED BANDS

Counties needed for USA-CA

NX5Z No Special Trips

AR Clay Craighead Cross Lawrence Logan Montgomery
Randolph IA Clayton Keokuk KS Clay Coffey KY
Ballard Fleming MS Clay Leake Stone NE Gosper OK
OSAGE TN Perry TX Bee Brown Cottle Somerville
WV Mc Dowell Webster

K1DFO Wait

GA Bacon Fannin Mitchell IN Brown KY Breckenridge
Letcher LA Vernon MO Dent Gasconade NE Wayne
NY Hamilton NC Graham Jones ND Hettinger WV
Doddridge Pendleton

Counties for special needs

WB9IHH Jim
Collect 908-364-4604

AK 2nd AR Baxter Greene Marion CO Alamosa GA
Baldwin Burke Quitman HI Kauai IN Hamilton KS
Crawford Gove Wichita KY Bell Fleming Garrard

Harrison Henry Knox Nicholas Spencer Woodford MD
Somerset MS Holmes Madison

Net Operating Tips By Mitch, W4RKV

For a given county being run, is it fair for some of the stronger stations to get two contacts in that county while others who need the county fail to get a contact at all because time expires and the mobile is signed out? Take the case of a mobile team (OM/YL, 2 OMs). The OM is running the county and will routinely respond first to the strong(est) station that he hears, lets say W4RKV. I have a good contact with him, then ask for a contact with the YL. He hands the mike to her, we make contact, she hands the mike back to him for another QRZ. I've now had two contacts in that county while others who just need credit for the basic county, perhaps for the first time, may not get a contact because of subsequent time constraints. I think there are better and more fair ways.

If my YXL were a ham (she is not) and I was running the basic county under my call, I would announce on the front end that she would make YL contacts **AT THE END OF MY RUN, TIME PERMITTING**. Then I would proceed to work all who just need the basic county, including relays. If this consumed all my allotted time, then those needing a second (YL) contact would have to move us off the net frequency for the YL portion of the run. George and Joyce, KD8HA/HB, use a slight variation of this system wherein those working George indicate they need a YL contact, Joyce makes a running list of these calls, then works them at the end of George's run, time permitting. It works great, for them and the net. The same method could be used for a team where one call is not good for BINGO but the other is.

MARAC AWARDS

Van Peterson, K4QFK, Awards Custodian
PO Box 48307, Cumberland, NC 28331-0307

JUNE 1994

Let me begin this month's article with the fact that, contrary to what some people are saying, the Awards Program is up to date! All Awards received through the end of May have been processed and mailed including plaques. Except those that are on order or have been requested to be held for Springfield.

If there is any info that you have requested prior to the end of May '94, and you have not received it yet, you should let me know right away!

During the past eighteen months I have had a multitude of things to happen that caused me to lag behind in Awards

processing and the MARAC Members have had the right to complain. I have and still do apologize for those delays, BUT, I AM A VOLUNTEER, not a paid employee who comes to work and punches a time clock or answers to the "BOSS" every morning. THEREFORE, I didn't expect to get some of the "Pot shots" and treatment that I received. I GAVE TO YOU THE MOST VALUABLE THING THAT I HAVE, MY TIME, and the older you become the more valuable that commodity becomes. I also gave up the things that I enjoy the most , running County's. During this period of time I have felt that I have received less that adequate support from the "Board", been accused of "fitting the profile of someone who is stealing money" by the MARAC Attorney (Well before he bothered to investigate exactly how the money is handled in this program), had my financial records audited and have yet to receive or see anything published which would clear up this question! A few people who would like to see me relinquish this program have taken advantage of this situation even while pretending to be my friend but I was not born without sight!, and I don't mean my eyes.

Now , If all of the above gives you the Idea that I am a bit Irritated, you are correct. I will not be the MARAC "whipping boy". I do thank all of you who have supported me 100 percent, which have been most of you, inspite of my shortcomings which have been many. I assure you that I will not forget! I have written the Board (Which I am constitutionally still a member of) to either support me or fire me and get on with the program! I will not resign or forget the commitment that I made to MARAC when I applied for this Job, as the last custodian quit on the spot, until that commitment has been fulfilled. BUT, I am an appointed person which the President can replace if he so chooses.

Now on to other things; **I would like to remind you that the Karl Adkins (WA6MAR) Net Control Award has been approved to be issued free to MARAC members, including the Plaque for 1000 hours. There is now an application form to apply for this award. Please request and use this form when applying for the award. Log data is required and as with all of the awards which require considerable log info, you may submit a computer printout and use the application form as a cover sheet. Also there is a application form now for the YL Mobile Award.**

As I write this I do not know if the new Awards Information packet will be included in the Annual Report, but if it isn't and you want one, please send a business size SASE with two units of postage, currently 52 cents. This has been recently updated but if you notice errors or language that is confusing and could be changed or clarified, please let me know.

I HAVE NOTICED A LOT OF FOLKS SENDING IN LAST COUNTY AWARDS FOR 2ND TIME AROUND LATELY AND IF YOU DO NOT HAVE AN APPLICA-

TION AND CERTIFICATION FORM, PLEASE ASK FOR ONE! IT DOESN'T MATTER WHICH FORM YOUR LOGS ARE IN, APPLICATION BOOK OR COMPUTER PRINT-OUT, BUT PLEASE INCLUDE THE APPLICATION FORM FROM MARAC.

Some of you will notice that I have recently started including an LC-3 application form with your awards as you reach a new level, this should save a few SASEs.

ADDRESS CHANGES! Many of you notify me directly when your address changes but many do not and this has resulted in quite a few awards being returned. The Secretary sends me an update every two weeks but this two week delay can result in returned mail, so if at all possible, please notify me as soon as you move. The reason for the mail being returned is the statement on the envelope "Address corrections requested" which causes the Post Office to put the correct address on the envelope and "return to sender". This is somewhat of an inconvenience but it does result in NO mail lying around in a dead letter office, lost and not delivered.

MOBILE AMATEUR RADIO AWARDS CLUB, INC.
A KANSAS NONSTOCK CORPORATION
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
May 1, 1994

The regular monthly meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board for the Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club, Inc., a Kansas Nonstock Corporation (MARAC) was held, beginning at 2:00 p.m., on Sunday May 1, 1994, at the home of Joe Parsons, W5UJO, 1639 Evergreen Drive, Mesquite, TX.

Joe Parsons, W5UJO, President, presided as chairman of the meeting. Don Magers, KE5WL, Secretary of MARAC, acts as Secretary of the meeting.

The following Directors were present: Joe Parsons, W5UJO; Jerry Weaver, WD5JGS; Don Magers, KE5WL; Diane Landreth, KI5TV; Alan Landreth, NA5F. Also attending were Mary, KC5UO and Jean, WDX5JGS.

A directed motion to accept the minutes of the April meeting of the Board of Directors as printed, was made by Joe Parsons, W5UJO, there being no objections, the motion carried.

Diane Landreth, KI5TV, presented the Treasurers report, for the financial activity for the month of April and the annual financial report to be published in the MARAC Annual Report. A directed motion to accept these reports was made by Joe Parsons, W5UJO, there being no objections, the motion carried.

Don Magers, KE5WL reported that the acknowledgment form for petty cash funds held by MARAC members from Pete Peterson, K4QFK, MARAC Awards Chairman had been

received and turned over to Diane Landreth, KI5TV, MARAC Treasurer.

Don Magers, KE5WL presented the Proxy Vote forms returned from the MARAC Board of Directors from Gene Eggebraten, W7GVF and Shel Mann, N0DRX. The Board will keep the forms on file and will be used to insure a quorum at our monthly meetings. Copies of these forms will be made and sent to Joe Murphy, KA9HCA, MARAC General Counsel.

Don Magers, KE5WL reported that an application form, concerning the Kansas Nonstock Corporation renewal, from the Kansas Secretary of State, Bill Graves, had been received and would be filed along with the \$20.00 privilege fee. Copies will be sent to Joe Murphy, KA9HCA, General Counsel, and Skip Skaptason, WA0WOB, Kansas State Agent.

Joe Parsons, W5UJO presented a letter from Bob Dyson, K0AYO, Newsletter Editor, resigning his position as Newsletter Editor, effective January 1, 1995. A search for a replacement for this position of Newsletter Editor will be initiated with publication of this notice.

The next regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors, will be held at 1:00 p.m. June 5, 1994 at the home of Jerry Weaver, WD5JGS, Route 1 Box 267, Denison, TX. For any additional information, please contact Don Magers, KE5WL, MARAC Secretary.

There was no further business to come before the meeting, on the motion of Jerry Weaver, WD5JGS seconded by Allen Landreth, NA5F and a unanimous vote thereon, the meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m., May 1, 1994.

APPROVED:

Joe Parsons, W5UJO, President
Don Magers, KE5WL, Secretary

FROM THE SECRETARY

If your mailing label indicates 199307 or 199408, it is time to renew. Dues with 1st class mailing of the Newsletter are \$19/yr. Dues with 3rd class mailing of the Newsletter are \$16/yr. Note that 3rd class mailing is available within the US, only. Dues with the Newsletter mailed Air Mail to all continents other than North America are \$30/yr. Multiple year renewals and business size SASE's with renewals are also very much appreciated. Please make your check or money order payable to MARAC and mail to the Secretary, Don Magers, KE5WL, 406 Cherry Park Drive, Sherman, TX 75090-6709.

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MARAC INFORMATION PACKET

Get the word out to potential new members and interested County Hunters that a County Hunting Information Packet is available. The Information Packet includes information about MARAC, QSLing, Net Operation, County Hunting supplies, etc. Send the request with a business size envelope with 29 cent postage to:

MARAC, 406 Cherry Park Drive, Sherman, TX 75090-6709

Europeans can get the Packet from Eddie, G4KHG.

ARRL MEMBERSHIPS

I wish to thank our MARAC members, who have demonstrated their support of MARAC, by submitting their ARRL memberships through the MARAC Secretary.

April N8BGF, KF7RU, W2IN, W7KEU, ND3T, NB6A, KE5RH, WA3RTY, KG5J, W4BWR, NG9L, AA6PI

I process these applications on a monthly basis. My cutoff day for each processing cycle for these is the last day of the month. If your ARRL renewal notice requests you return it to them by April 15, I should receive it on or before March 31. We do not want anyone to miss a copy of QST, because of their support of MARAC.

For each ARRL membership, Regular or Senior Memberships, MARAC gets a fee of \$2 fee for a renewal or \$5 for a new membership. To take advantage of this, I ask that you mail the ARRL membership application and your check made out to MARAC for the amount of the ARRL dues to:
MARAC, 406 Cherry Park Drive, Sherman, TX 75090-6709.

10 Meter QSO Party Results

CW Fixed	Mobile
K6QWH CA 496 pts	W3DYA TX 50 pts
K8CW OH 275 pts	
WOOWY Tried	

SSB FIXED	Mobile
K6QWH CA 3240 pts	K7IOO WA 224 pts
AB4QD FL 1440 pts	

These were the logs that were sent to me. All participants will receive a certificate but no plaques will be issued this year. For those of you who participated - a big thank you! Hopefully, the band will be better next year.

Comments from contesters: Drove (Karen did) through 57 counties and had contacts in 8! On the bright side, finished running South TX counties (14 left to complete the state), wx at Harlingen was 90 degrees, had a nice visit with Joyce and Barry. Car odometer turned over 100,000 miles - look out Duster (Gene, WHITEE), I'm coming. W3DYA. Great participation! Very crowded. Called CQ CH test over 1500 times with no answer.HI! K8CW. The band was non-existent for me. Then afterwards I discovered that I was trying to use the 20M antenna. No wonder. Better try next year. WOOWY. Not much RF escaped the PNW. Costa Rica is a new mobile country. Was a great day to be mobile. K7IOO/M. Thanks for making this QSO party available. Tried mobile both days but missed band openings. Hope to try next year. AB4QD. Was the worst band conditions ever. Even worst than last year. You were the only SSB person on CW test present (WB9NUL) K6QWH. (Glad to hear you get through the quake OK, Howard de Joyce).

See you next year if the band ever opens. Joyce, WB9NUL

MARAC Financial Report

Checking Acc't 4-1-94	\$ 2,470.13
Income	2,014.00
Expenses	1,194.94
Checking Acc't 4-30-94	\$ 3,289.19
Savings Acc't 4-1-94	\$15,964.00
Interest	101.81
Savings Acc't 4-30-94	\$16,505.81
Prepaid membership dues 4-30-94	\$12,228.77

County Hunter Forum Dayton Hamvention

The forum was held April 29, 1994 in room 1 at the Dayton Hamvention. Luckily we were inside, because it was typical Hamvention weather-WET.

N8BGF John, welcomed everyone and ask they fill out index cards which would be used for a prize drawing at the end of program. As an introduction to county hunting the MARAC video about county hunting was shown.

The 1st speaker WA3RTY, Norm Van Raay of CQ magazine, presented W5FHL Doc with USA-CA #836. Norm also spoke on updating the rules of CQ's county award.

He was followed by K4QFK, Pete the awards custodian for MARAC, speaking on MARAC awards. Pete stated he has

some updated guidelines for MARAC awards, dated June 1994, and they will be available at the National Convention in June.

The third speaker was NFOX, Harry representing the CW county hunters. Harry said he has done it both ways and found CW more fun, one reason being, as a mobile you get to run more counties. Harry also gave the procedure on checking into the CW net and their operating frequency.

WD9GBH, Herb has worked all counties -all mobile - all 20 meters - without relays. Herb spoke on what a challenge it was and how much patience and listening time is required. Also gave some of the techniques he used to be heard by the mobiles.

N8BGF, John listed the computer programs available for tracking counties and the 5 star award, with a brief description of their pros and cons. He also covered info about the QSL bureaus and where county hunting supplies are available.

The last speaker, N4ANV, Gene graciously filled in for the scheduled speaker, who had to cancel at the last minute. Gene spoke on a topic dear to his heart, COUNTY HUNTING A WAY OF LIFE, relating antidotes of county hunting over the years.

Last but not least was a drawing for 6 County Hunting Handbooks donated by W0OWY, Bill of the B & B Shop. The winners were K1ER, WA8KIW, NW1O, K9DAF, AA9CW and AA9GF.

Following the forum there was an informal gathering at the Old Country Buffet, for food and fellowship.

USA-CA Information from WA3RTY

LATEST USA-CA Numbers

#834 NC6M 04-15-94 #835 N6PYN 04-26-94 #836 W5FHL 04-26-94 #837 W0DFK 05-19-94 #838 WA2UJH 05-19-94

Norm also reports that N4ZFB HAS successfully passed his General License test and is valid for contacts on and after 04-29-94.

Norm also advises that KC5DIQ as of 05-10-94 is a TECHNICIAN and does not have 20 meter operating privileges, so contacts ARE NOT VALID,

Members Speak!

Genoa Blanchard (XYL of Frank, AA4LB) - To All County Hunters; Words cannot express the deep gratitude I want to

express to each and every County Hunter. Thanks to each of you that sent cards, to those of you who telephoned and for each one that offered a prayer on Frank's behalf.

He loved County Hunting so very very much. We made so many friends through the Conventions and over the airways. I know that he will be missed not only by us, his family, but by each of you with which he was able to contact over the air.

I hope that we will be able to keep in touch. Again, let me express my heartfelt thanks to each of you for all your kindnesses and concerns.

WB6IYS, Bill - This is directed to all CW mobile ops: HELP! Please, please, please give your call and your county when running. Band conditions are terrible these days and many of us cannot hear the NCS but we can hear you! I've just missed another county because the mobile station came on, called CHN/, exchanged reports with the NCS and then called QRZ? I can't hear the NCS so I don't know who the mobile is or what county he's running. Your whole purpose in being out there is to give out counties - and I appreciate it more than I can say. How about identifying yourself so we can have a valid QSO!

I now have available a new and improved version of my County Hunters Lookup program for anyone who wants a copy. The program is designed to be used while you are on the air to instantly tell you whether or not you need the county being run. Just type in the county and the program responds by telling you if you have the QSL already. New features include: a scratch pad for keeping track of the mobiles running, statistics on your totals by state, printouts of counties needed (or worked) by state. The program no longer requires that you have dBaseIII+ on your computer. It simply requires a DOS-based machine and will run under Windows if you desire. Send a formatted disc (either size) and \$1 to cover postage. I'll ship disc and instruction manual back to you. Bill Zaner, WB6IYS 470 Martinsen Ct Palo Alto CA 94306

W5VRA, Bob - I will no longer avail myself of the services of ACES and will not accept any MRC's from them. They will be refused and returned. I believe that one QSL Bureau is more than enough when we are in the low of the sun spot cycle. I also believe that the Mobile QSL Bureau has a much larger database and is more than willing to help anyone with any problem. I know that they have every time that I have called. As an old time member of the net I can remember the confusion and sometimes harsh words that were passed due to the multiple qsl bureaus that we had. I can remember sending MRC's back to the wrong bureau and the feeling of embarrassment when I realized what I had done. I feel that Jack's(WA9QNI) comments speak for me as well as for him. This is no reflection on Mr Siegel. It is simply that I feel that The Mobile QSL Bureau has done a fine job and I see no reason to have another Bureau at this time.

KE4EVU/AG, Dolly - I am writing regarding first time shock. On April 2, 1994 I decided it would be nice to give out a few TN counties. So my husband (KM4ES, and 11 year old daughter piled into the car and headed for the Natchez Trace Parkway. When the county hunting bug bit Tom, I was his "recorder" a time or two, so how hard could it be using a tape recorded? What an education I was in for.

First lesson: be sure to let your tape recorded know if you are on 20 meters or 40 meters. Otherwise, a voice recording camcorder aimed at your radio might be a good idea. Second lesson: put a muzzle on the kids, dog, and husband if necessary to hear those trying to contact you. Third lesson: rolling up the windows to shut out passing vehicles really helps. Fourth lesson; don't take an eye off the husband. When he starts to fling his arms or make muffled noises, you just made a contact in a county he needed. Last lesson(?); my hat is off to all those who routinely give out counties. I hope to get better and sound just as "professional" as you do. Thank you one and all for your patience with a newcomer. See you in Springfield.

VA3RJ (VE3BMR), Dave - There is a new prefix for Ontario, Canada. The new VA3 prefix is twisting a lot of heads and causing confusion. It is a permanent call sign prefix. I am not the only one, so there might be more VA3's showing up on the nets. Canada, just like the US is issuing new call signs as the old VE3 calls have all been taken. I elected to take a two letter VA3 call as I was wanting to take a two letter call on. So I am on the net as VA3RJ. I do still hold VE3BMR. In fact, I might revert back to my old call because of the confusion HI! The Canadian East Coast (VE1) changed to VE9 for even more confusion. This will also apply to VE2, etc.

W7BD, Bob - Just a note to thank all of the CHN folks on 14.0565 for adding a new dimension to "ham" radio for me. This morning(5-5-94) KA4IFF/M gave me my 1000th county worked QRP(4w) and I felt pretty good about that. I've only been chasing the counties, on purpose, about 3 years after wondering what this strange net was that worked all day. I had spent most of my time3 on/around 14.06 and snooping the low end for DX. After listening a few days to Ed, WA6VJP, I figured I had QRV and QNT under control and would QRO to 50W to help out. BUT, was I in for a surprise when Ed asked me to run somebody because he couldn't hear them. I liked to fell out of my chair scrambling for whatever on the desk./ I do remember grabbing the pink card from ARRL with all the Q signals and saying a prayer. Somehow we got through that and have enjoyed on occasion "running" somebody. I'm still pretty sloppy but hopefully doing better. I'm amazed and impressed that anybody can work /M CW and keep a log and wondered what /M I had worked for the most new counties. My computer says I have KK7X for 77, W3XE for 68 and W3DYA for 60. There is a cluster in the 40s and 30s. I feel like I've really got to know these fine folks on their travels AND all the others who are so unselfish with their time and talents to give folks like me an opportunity to work towards self imposed goals. Thanks. A special thanks to Ed for being patient with me and all the neat

folks adding to the fun of "ham" radio. I did, in fact, meet an honest to goodness CHN /M at exit 53 (KG5J, A1 and Ev) and discovered they don't have "cans" glued to their ears and keys implanted in their legs.

NC1N, Charlie - I'm a part time county hunter. I've been at it since 1985. I'm married, two young kids and my wife and I both work full time. There's not much time left for hamming. I get on the net from time to time, and I try to pick up counties from ragchews and contests. My call may not be well known, but I enjoy county hunting, and I'll keep at it even if it takes another twenty years. I live in "1-land" and have a modest station. At home, I operate barefoot into a vertical. I operate mobile from time to time, again barefoot. The net is often : down in the noise. Often, I can copy the mobiles but not the net control. When mobile, being given preference frequently means I can operate direct. If net control is barely audible, relays aren't practical, and it's hard to punch through a pile up for a rare one. At home, I can put on the head phones and listen for faint signals. Not while driving!

Is it fair for mobiles to go first? After all, my reception difficulties are my own problem: I', located away from the majority of county hunters, and my station is modest. When I'm home, I don't mind waiting for mobiles (I like it - I get a sense of who's pout there) and the preference often given to mobiles has been motivation to put HF in my car. I'd never claim a right to go first when mobile, but I sure appreciate it when it happens.

4th Quarter Ballot Results

SSB N/C SSB Mobile

1st WU3H WA0SBR
2nd VE2MS KK7X
3rd KZ2P KB3GN & KB4XK TIE

CW N/C CW Mobile

1st WA6VJP 1st KK7X
2nd N0CYB 2nd W3XE & KB4XK TIE
3rd N0DPF

303 AWARD FOR THE SPRINGFIELD CONVENTION

At the Mountain Home convention in 1969, Room 303 was utilized as the "hospitality room". It was decided that a "303 Award" be given to those who contacted mobiles going to or coming from the convention.

Your convention committee for 1994 have decided to "recall the 303 Award" and offer it again.

To qualify for this Award:

1. Work mobiles (CW or SSB) traveling to, at, and/or from the MARAC Annual Convention, Springfield, Mo. This includes contacts with WBODPD operating portable at the Convention site.
2. Net contacts are valid.
3. Each contact counts 1 point. (2 points if mobile is on a county line).
4. Exchange signal report.
5. Multiple contacts with mobiles allowed PROVIDED mobile is in different counties.
6. Certificate issued to those stations with a minimum of 50 points.
7. Dates of contacts allowed - June 14th (0000Z) thru July 2 (2400Z).
8. Listing of contacts showing date, etc to KOAYO along with \$2 to cover costs NLT August 1, 1994. Certificates will be printed based on the number of applications received.

Upcoming Events

Jun 21 - 25 MARAC National Convention Hosts - K5-KDG/KOAYO

Sep 8 - 10 North Central District Mini Host - N9DEH

Sep 29 - 30 Pacific District Mini Host - W00WY

Nov 3 - 5 South East District Mini 3M Host - KM4W

(This will be a monthly listing. Items will be added as the Editor receives them. Contact the Host for additional information, also, watch newsletter for information.)

Editors Note

Again, I must apologize for being late in getting this newsletter to you. I finished it Sunday, May 29th, one week late. With the convention set for June 21, the July issue will also be late. I will try to get it into the mail by July 5. Hopefully, I can get back on schedule for the remainder of the year.

As you know, I am relinquishing publication of the Road Runner as of Dec 31 this year. If anyone is interested in volunteering for the job I would be glad to answer any questions. Generally, I am available on evenings and weekends. If you call and get the answering machine, please leave a number where you can be reached during evenings or weekends!

CW Forever



You must have at times, thought into the past,
Where some things go out, while others last,
What comes to mind is the old Morse Code,
That has weathered the storms from any abode.

To talk with ones fingers is surely an art,
Of any info you care to impart,
In most conditions the signals get through,
While the same about phone is simply not true.

Those dits and dahs cut through the trash,
Of nearby noise or lightning's crash,
To the sensitive ears of the ham receiver,
Who records this data with ardent fever.

He knows he's doing something unique,
(in such poor conditions, that's quite a feat!)
To roger the message that came off the air,
These brass pounders sure do have that flair.

They say Morse ops are a dying breed,
But don't despair, there's always that need,
That when conditions get rough for the new automation,
Be rest assured, there'll be need for your station.

CW is dying? Believe it never,
This mode will be 'round, forever and ever,
But one thing is sure, what we really need,
Is to relay our knowledge to the younger breed.

To carry the torch, long after we're gone,
To send Morse Code through the air, like a song,
When at last Silent Keys pull that final lever,
We can rest in peace, it's CW forever.

Thanks W6DDB, WA7FCG). IIAH-HUM -- April 1994, Vol. XLIV. No. 4

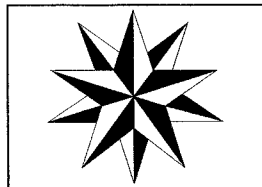
North-Central MARAC Mini

(A sanctioned MARAC Mini)

HOLIDAY INN -- Elgin, Illinois

Route 31 and I-90

September 8-10, 1994



In addition to all the eyeballs, rag chews, and 2-meter talk-in, there are these attractions in the Fox River Valley area:

Shopping Malls Antique Stores Railroad Museum River Boat Gambling
Golf Courses Thoroughbred Racing at Arlington Park

ROOM RATE - \$55 per night (plus tax)

Make your room reservations directly:
(Mention MARAC County Hunters)

HOLIDAY INN
(708) 695-5000

.....

Registration Form:

Name: _____	Call: _____	MARAC No. _____
		USA-CA No. _____
Spouse's Name: _____	Call: _____	MARAC No. _____
		USA-CA No. _____
Street Address: _____	City and Zip Code: _____	
Registration Fee: For OM + YL	MARAC Member (dues paid on current basis): \$12.00 All others: \$17.00	\$ _____
Single	MARAC Member (dues paid on current basis): \$9.00 All others: \$14.00	\$ _____
Saturday night buffet	___ @ \$22.00/per person	\$ _____
	Total	\$ _____

Make checks payable to: MARAC Conventions, Inc.

Mail to: Tim McLaughlin (N9DEH)
 P.O. Box 975
 Crystal Lake, IL 60039-0975

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