



The Bureau Drawer

NEWS & VIEWS

Mobile QSL Bureau

P.O. Box 6436, Florence, South Carolina 29502

January 1991

Mobile of the Month

The Mobile QSL Bureau is pleased to announce that WA3TUC, Paul, has been drawn as our February Mobile of the Month. We will be happy to process MRCs and QSLs to Paul at no charge to you during February. Paul took several long trips last year, so perhaps you may want to check to be sure you have all your contacts confirmed!

Short Takes . . .

N4IXV, George, advises that his rig has been down and in for repair, but that he hopes to be back on the air soon.

W3SQA, Hal, thanks all the mobiles and net controls who made it possible for him to finish up USA-CA!

N1DYV, Ken, sends his apologies for the delay in returning many months of mailings from the Bureau. He believes all cards are now back to us and there may be some in this mailing!

Please be sure your submittals for the Mobile of the Month reach us prior to the end of the proper month!

/M. . . while sorting cards lately, we have noticed that many of you are not including the /m on QSLs and MRCs when in fact the station was mobile. Please remember to use this designation when applicable!

VESXX, Val, advises that he does not require QSLs for contacts he makes while he is mobile in the US as they are useless to him unless he is in Canada.

Dates We had four notes regarding dates on QSLs and/or MRCs. Please note that 5-10-90 is May 10 to about half the world and October 5 to the other! Please try to remember to abbreviate or use Roman Numerals for the month.

Phonetics . . . we had many more comments requesting that they be used - even though we are amateurs, we can act as professionals. Perhaps, one suggested, we should forget the foolishness on the nets and go back to the way it was several years ago when standard phonetics were used almost all the time. The first few letters of the counties phonetically will help, too! Many state that they are only active a few times a year and what with all the new County Hunters and call changes, it is very difficult to log the correct calls 100% of the time without them. They go a long way in improving accuracy and speed.

Last, but not least . . . This is my first attempt at the *Bureau Drawer* on the computer and our new printer. The previous issues were done on a commercial typesetter. This should save me lots of time and if all goes well, you should still be able to read it! Wish me well!

Upcoming Minis

WD5JGS, Jerry, reminds us that the **1991 Southcentral Mini** will be held March 8-9 at the Lake Texoma Resort near the Texas/Oklahoma border on US-Highway 70. Rooms (\$39+ tax) have been blocked until Feb. 6, so make your reservation now by calling 1-800-654-8240 or writing them at Box 248, Kingston, OK 73439. Activities planned include a golf tournament on Friday morning and Chactow Bingo on Friday evening. A banquet will be held Saturday evening at \$15 per person. Mail your registration fee (\$12 OM/YL or \$9 Single-includes name tag, photo, and prizes) and banquet payment to WD5JGS, Jerry Weaver, Route 1, Box 267, Denison, TX 75020 (903) 463-3231.

The **Michigan Mini** will be held April 19-20 at the Country Hospitality Inn, 12260 James Street, Holland, MI 48626 (616-396-6677). Please make your room reservation prior to April 5 (\$41/Single or \$46/Double including continental breakfast).

Again this year the main drawing will be for a home brew mobile amplifier. Tickets are available for a \$5 donation and you need not be present to win. The Saturday night dinner is \$14 per person. Registration is \$12 for OM/YL or \$9 single. Please mail your registration and dinner fees to N8EMV, Paula Batema, 1567 66th Street, Fennville, MI 49408.

Note: Both of these groups would appreciate any prize donations. When registering, please include all calls, names and USA-CA numbers.

Announcing WG9A Award

Bill Grew, WG9A, was the first person to submit his data for the Master County Hunter Award sponsored by the Mobile QSL Bureau. We are pleased to present him with his plaque dated January 1, 1990. Congratulations, Bill, and thanks for taking part!

CW NET TO MOVE

Steve, WA1UDH, sent us the following as a follow-up on the possibility of moving the 20 meter CW net to 14056.5:

A total of 107 letters were mailed to County Hunter. As of late December, 57 had replied. Of the 57 who replied, 54 were in favor of the move and 3 opposed or a ratio of 18 to 1 in favor of a shift in operating frequency. The 57 replies represent slightly over 50 percent - a very good response. Most of those who approve of the change in frequency are quite upset with the high amount of QRM from the RTTY/AMTOR stations who cannot or refuse to acknowledge our existence on 14066.5.

The ARRL "Gentleman's Agreement" currently has RTTY/AMTOR operations going no lower than 14070; no FCC regulations apply with respect to limiting the extent of RTTY/AMTOR. With the rapid increase in numbers of hams who are using that mode of operation, it is not surprising that they are beginning to move below 14070 KHz and we are the first CW stations that they encounter. That is part of the reason for moving down 10 KHz as opposed to 3 or 4; there will be other CW stations to act as a buffer between us and the RTTY/AMTOR.

As the results of the survey are overwhelmingly in favor of moving the net frequency, I suggest that we perform the QSY effective February 1, 1991. This will allow all involved ample time to receive notice of our move. This letter is being sent to each of the 107 stations on the original distribution list. In addition, the editors of the *Roadrunner* and *Bureau Drawer* will be notified so that they can make the appropriate announcements. Arrangements will also be made so that the SSB net on 14336 KHz is aware of our move so they may pass along the information to interested County Hunters.

Steve wants to thank each of you who responded showing your interest and desire to express your views, whether pro or con.

1991 Mobile QSL Bureau Directory

We are pleased to announce that the NEW 1991 Mobile QSL Bureau Directory is now on the press and should be ready for shipment by the time you read this newsletter. The new book is 8 1/2 x 11 inches, printed on quality paper, and is plastic ring bound so that it will lie flat when in use!

The book is based on the data we have collected over the last years and contains listings on about 4800 county hunters including call, name, address, county, phone number, prior calls, notes of interest, and information for USA-CA, Second, Third, Bingo Awards. Also included are about 1000 Old Call/New Call listings. Plans are for regular updates.

If you are interested in a copy, the price is \$7.50 including shipping and handling in the US. Outside the US, the cost is \$9 US funds for shipping via surface small packet.

Thoughts/Policy Regarding "First-Contact" Verification:

It simply isn't fair to ask a mobile op to confirm counties without sending your personal QSL card . . . or at least a filled-in and signed MRC for first contact.

Perhaps the mobile (also an active County-Hound) may need *your* county, or prefix, or whatever, and requires verification of the contact equally as much. This has happened to me many times!

My policy is thus: I will sign/verify the 1st such request while remarking that a personal card is needed, stating "x" number of reasons. If the card is sent, FINE! If not . . . then no subsequent requests will be verified until it is indeed received.

Remember: "Value given for Value received!" Sil, N4RNR

Counties Needed

Again, we will present some of the listings submitted to us for counties needed for various awards. If you are traveling through one of these counties, please try to make contact with the stations if at all possible. Please also remember that some of the awards require qualifications - so check on this!

George, **KC7OD**, is looking for these **USA-CA** counties: GA: Jones. KY: Casey, Todd. NE: Saline. Call him collect at 406-452-5958 evenings and weekends.

W2CUK, Tom, would appreciate the following MT counties to finish **2nd Time Around**: Fallon and Lake. Reach Tom at 803-272-8361.

Gene, **W2FXA**, 716-655-4162, needs Franklin, ID plus one other county to complete **4th Time Around**.

W2EZ, Tom, who can be reached at 716-377-0663 collect after 0000Z is looking for these counties to complete the **2nd Time Around Award**: CA: Marin. ID: Washington. IL: Jasper, Jersey. NY: Hamilton. NC: Avery. KY: Boyle, Campbell, Jessamine, Martin. OK: Latimer. PA: Somerset. TN: Johnson. TX: Briscoe, Robertson. VA: Charlotte, Lunenburg, Page. Tom notes that he tries to help those out in his neck-of-the-woods when he can.

Will 1991 be the year **KD8NR** finishes **USA-CA**? With only nine counties to go, perhaps! Tony is generally available evenings and weekends. AR: Marion. CA: Amador. NE: Boone, Hayes. OR: Clackamas, Marion. TX: Sherman, Ochiltree. WA: Yakima.

Alma, **WASINV**, is looking for some help with these **Bingo** counties: GA: Jeff Davies, Lanier, Putnam, Ware, Webster, Wilcox. ID: Boundary, Caribou, Franklin. KY: Henderson, Monroe. MT: Lewis & Clark. TX: Limestone. And, for the **2nd Time**: KS: Phillips. MO: Putnam. NE: Garfield, Johnson. GA: Chandler, Lauren, Pickens, Pierce, Ware.

KASYWD, Pat, has nearly completed **USA-CA**. She can be reached at 915-943-3126 collect for KS: Grant, Rice, Stanton. MS: Calhoun. MT: Sheridan. NE: Burt, Colfax. SD: Sully. TX: Hardeman and one reserved.

Bill, **W6NAT**, could use the following 20 meter-mobile counties to finish his **Second Time Around**: GA: Barrow. KY: Knox. MI: Alpena, Benzie, Charlevoix, Ionia, Manistee. MS: Calhoun, Pontotoc. MO: Butler. NH: Cheshire. OH: Defiance, Geauga. PA: Sullivan. VA: Bath, Essex, Giles, Madison. KS: Wilson, Woodson. WV: Summers.

W4HSA, Jim is looking for some counties for **USA-CA** on any band, SSB or CW! He can be reached evenings and weekends collect at 404-955-5757. ID: Caribou, Franklin. KS: Graham, Phillips. KY: Calloway, (Carroll), Franklin. MN: Dodge, Stevens. MO: Knox. MT: Garfield, McCone, Phillips. NE: Rock, Sioux. ND: Burke, Eddy, Ramsey. OR: Clatsop, Crook, Harney, Jefferson, Wheeler. TX: Hardeman.

As of December 29, **KA3DRQ**, Ron, 301-398-7074, is looking for these counties for **USA-CA**: AR: Arkansas, Howard. CO: Alamosa, Gilpin, Jackson, San Miguel. GA: Appling, Burke, Charlton, Evans, Pierce, Putnam. MD: Talbot. IL: Mason, Randolph, Wabash. IA: Dubuque, Winnebago. KS: Doniphan, Greeley, Mitchell, Morris, Osborne, Sheridan. MS: Clairborne, Montgomery, Neshoba, Okibbeha, Tunica. NY: Cattaraugus, Franklin, Orleans, Seneca. ND: Adams, Bowman, Burke, Divide, LaMoure, Logan, McKenzie, Pembina, Pierce, Steele. MO: Andrew, Buchanan, Gasconade, Grundy, Mercer, Putnam, Sullivan, Warren. MT: Choteau, Custer, Fallon, Judith Basin, Golden Valley, McCone, Musselshell, Richland, Roosevelt, Sheridan, Wheatland. NE: Arthur, Gosper, Kearney, Logan, McPherson, Phelps. PA: Clinton, Franklin, Lehigh, Northumberland, Perry, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Wyoming. SD: Bennett, Buffalo, Butte, Harding, Lawrence, Tripp. TX: Coke, Jasper, Lavaca, Lipscomb, Sterling. WI: Burnett, Sawyer, Vilas. VA: Culpepper, Northampton, Fauquier, Powhatan, Rapahanock, Surry. WV: Barbour, Pocahontas, Wetzel.

John, **KA2CNG**, has the following last counties as of Jan. 1. **20 Meters** only: NH: Sullivan. RI: Bristol. VT: Chittendon. **Bingo** only: WI: Fond du Lac. MD: Baltimore.

If you can put these counties out on **CW**, **KN4Y**, Ed, is looking for them for the **USA-CA Award**: AK: First District. AL: Bullock, Houston. GA: Ben Hill, Calhoun, Heard, Murray, Rockdale. HI: Kalawao. ID: Washington. IN: Clay, Hancock, Perry, Sullivan. KY: Scott, Trimble. MI: Crawford, Lapeer, Lake. MS: Humphreys. MO: Perry, Texas. MT: Treasure. NE: Brown. NC: Alexander, Caldwell, Graham, Jackson, Randolph, Stokes, Union. SC: Allendale, Beaufort, Marion. SD: Shannon. TN: Henry. As you can see, Ed's magic number is 39. He monitors 14066.5 most weekends.

N4DRX, Shel, 612-439-1272, asks that you make no special trips because of his work schedule, but he is looking for: AR: Woodruff. GA: Worth (Where are you, Bob?) IL: Cass, Marshall, Stark. IN: Noble. IA: Appanoose, Boone, Buchanan, Chickasaw, Fremont, Grundy, Hancock, Henry, Howard, Linn, Madison, Mahaska, Marion, Monona, Monroe, Shelby, Winnebago, Winneshiek. KS: Barber, Clay, Hamilton, Jewell, Kearney, Mitchell, Nemaha, Pawnee, Rice. MI: Luce. MN: Needs 11 and saving the last for his child bride! MS: Humphreys, Marion, Tate, Washington. MO: Bates, Grundy, Henry, Knox, Sullivan. MT: Pondera, Prairie. NE: Adams, Antelope, Arthur, Burt, Cedar, Clay, Cuming, Douglas, Garfield, Hooker, Keya Paha, Knox, Loup, McPherson, Madison, Otoe, Saunders, Sherman, Thurston, Washington, Wayne. NC: Alexander, Polk. ND: Burke, Dunn, Emmons, Grand Forks, Grant, Griggs, Logan, McIntosh, McLean, Nelson, Oliver, Ramsey, Rolette, Towner. SD: Aurora, Lincoln, Potter. WI: Crawford, Dodge, Iron, Juneau, Vilas.

Al, **NIAP1**, could use some help with some counties as well. AR: Dallas, Lawrence, Johnson, Randolph. IA: Jackson, Lee, Mahaska. KS: Cherokee, Crawford. MI: Gladwin, Houghton, Manistee, Montmorency. MO: Dade, Dallas, Miller, Perry. NY: Niagara. OR: Baker. SC: Cherokee. WV: Brooke, Webster, Wirt. WI: Langlade, Polk, Sheboygan. This will finish him up, will help complete some states.

ND1H, Bob, 701-746-9498 wants us to know his worst states are GA: Atkinson, Berrin, Bullock, Dade, Dawson, Heard, Lanier, Long, Pickens, Truetten, Union, Walker, White, Wilkes and KY: Breathitt, Elliot, Graves, Green, Jackson, Lawrence, Lewis, McLean, Owen, Owsley, Pendleton, Rockcastle, Trigg, Trimble.

Just as a reminder, please do not make a special trip for **ANY** of these counties without first checking to see if the station still needs the county and if he or she will be available!

THANK YOU!

Jerry and I want to thank all of you who took time to go through your mobile logs to check for contacts with **OESCA**. We have received many MRCs and QSLs which are being forwarded to Karl. I know he will be surprised and pleased! The offer is still open, and if you have made contact with Karl after 1980 and can provide confirmation, we will forward them on.

Processing Fees

The Mobile QSL Bureau serves those collecting counties by batch mailing cards from several of you, mailing them to the mobile operators with a SASE for return to the Bureau. We then return the cards to the collector.

Our current rate for this service is 20 cents per MRC or QSL. This is paid by the station originating the card. The mobile operator need not pay when he returns signed cards to us, but if he receives a QSL card in addition to the MRC, he is asked to return the signed MRC and his own personal QSL card in return.

Please mail all cards to P.O. Box 6436, Florence, South Carolina 29502. Our UPS address is Route 3, Box 400, Timmonsville, South Carolina 29161. Use the later address for UPS shipments only as we **DO NOT** receive mail there!

With regard to the upcoming postal increase, at present, we are going to try to hold our price at 20 cents with the hope that it will encourage greater use of the Bureau. One more card per envelope will allow us to absorb the additional fee. We will keep you posted.

The Mobile QSL Bureau has a brochure explaining these procedures in detail together with information on the Third Time Around and Master County Hunter Awards which are sponsored by the Bureau. If you desire a copy, please submit SASE and we will be happy to send it to you.

In addition to our mailing services, the Bureau prints several items. These include MRCs, QSLs, The United States of America Counties Outline Book, The 1991 Mobile QSL Bureau Directory,

Happy New Year to You All!