

THE BUREAU DRAWER

Third Time Around!

The Mobile QSL Bureau is very pleased to announce our latest *Third Time Around Award* recipients are Jan McLernon, NV6L, who has been issued Award No. 68 dated February 25, 1994, and Alex Marion, W2CUE, who has received Award No. 69 dated March 7, 1994.

Congratulations to you both and thank you for your participation.

WAØSBR Announces New Award

Work WAØSBR, Ed, in a minimum of 750 US counties. Contacts must include all 66 South Dakota counties and at least one contact in 25 different states. Contacts commencing January 1, 1990, will be valid. Submit log data numbered in chronological order including date, state, county. The award is a 9 x 12 walnut plaque which is laser etched with the US map and a personalized plate. Fee is \$30.

QSLs Revisited

Some of you may not realize that in order to use your QSL card for many awards, the QSL must be completely filled out with the call, date, time, mode and signal report as a bare minimum. The card must also be **signed**. It takes only a short time to sign your name and call on the card. A few stations have mentioned this of late. Some will not return a QSL card to a card they have received if it did not include a signature.

We had a lot of notes from mobile operators lately regarding the need to have the correct calls on MRCs. As you are well aware, many calls are very similar and both stations may even be running on the same day which can lead to confusion. ie, WU3H and W3HU. Please try to listen carefully. We try to route cards to the proper mobile if the call on the card is obviously in error, but if the call is a valid one, off to that station it goes. Many a net control has received a card for a county that was run while he/she was running the net and not mobile at all.

Again and again, the subject of date format has been mentioned. Is 10/2 October 2 or February 10? You certainly know which it is when you fill out your cards, but please take the time to make it clear on your MRCs as an aid to the mobile stations to find your contact among many, many pages of logs. Perhaps 10 FEB 94 OR FEB 10 94 is the best solution.

A note to the mobile operator: If you received a MRC only without a QSL card for a first time contact and you wish to have that station's QSL card, may we suggest you just write on the MRC "Please send QSL card." In most cases, the originating station will return a card. The reason for this is that if you, as the mobile operator, send your QSL card at that time requesting a return QSL, it will be necessary to pay the processing fee. Please remember that QSL cards are no longer processed for free. The SASE we enclose with the cards we send to the mobile operators allows for an equal number of cards to be returned to the Bureau as the number we submitted for confirmation.

News & Views — March 1994

The Mobile QSL Bureau
Route 3, Box 400
Timmonsville, South Carolina 29161-9565
803-346-2412

Operated by NØCKN and NØCOL
Jerry and Gwen Pollard

The Michigan Mini

The Great Lakes Mini will be held April 14-16 at the Country Hospitality Inn, Holland, MI. Make your reservations now by calling 616-396-6677.

Mobilers please note! A contribution of \$5 will entitle you to a try for a mobile amplifier which will be chosen at the Saturday banquet. (You do not have to be present to apply or win!) N8EMV, Paula Batema, 1567 66th Street, Fennville, MI 49408 - 616-227-3794 can provide details.

Dayton CH Forum

The County Hunter Forum at the Dayton Hamvention will be Friday, April 29, in Room I at 1500-1645 local time. The forum will be moderated by N8BGF, John, who can help you if you have a question.

There will also be a get together at the Old Country Buffet from 1700-1800 local time in a reserved room. The Buffet is located at 5597 Salem Avenue in the Consumer Square Mall, just north of the Salem Mall. Dinner if \$6.69 + tax, all you can eat, including pop and coffee.

Bureau Information

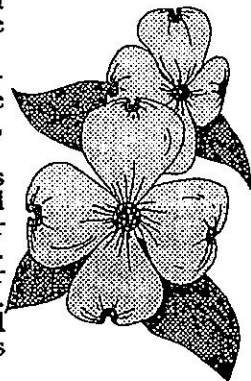
Mailing schedule: We are beginning this mailing on March 21. Future mailings are planned for: April 18, May 16 and June 16. Each mailing will continue daily until the entire mailing is complete.

Processing fees remain at 25 cents per MRC or QSL. Please, no checks for less than \$1.00. Postage stamps are OK. Let us know if you need a complete information booklet regarding the use of the Bureau, supplies we have available, etc.

Remember the **originating** operator pays the fees. If a station sends a MRC and a personal QSL they have paid for 2 cards and the mobile can return a MRC & a QSL via the Buro at no cost to you.

Please note: These operators no longer use the bureau:
KC4SIT,
WB4KMH, KB6ZX.

The Bureau sponsors the Third Time Around Award and the Master County Hunter (Bingo). Complete rules in our information package. The fee for the engraved plaque for these awards is \$40.



Unhappy with the Bureau

Don, KB6ZX, recently returned three of our self-addressed stamped envelopes containing many MRCs which were unsigned and the accompanying QSLs. He enclosed the following notice to the Bureau:

"TNASMUCH AS I HAVE WAITED 3+ MONTHS FOR A RESPONSE TO MY REQUEST FOR THE RULES FOR BINGO AND HAVE RECEIVED NEITHER THE RULES NOR MY ENCLOSED SASE I WILL ASSUME THAT YOU NO LONGER RESPECT MY COOPERATION IN YOUR EFFORT BY RESPONDING TO MRC'S. THEREFORE PLEASE ACCEPT THESE UNSIGNED CARDS IN RETURN AND UNDERSTAND THAT YOUR ENVELOPES WILL BE "RETURNED TO SENDER" IN THE FUTURE. DON, KB6ZX."

Because of this notice and a subsequent telephone call to him regarding this matter, we have no choice but to return the cards to the originating stations and we are doing so with this mailing.

Neither Jerry or I recall having received his request for Bingo rules he mentions (we always try to mail out such requests the next day) and we mentioned this to him with the suggestion that to not sign the cards was hardly fair to the stations submitting cards for confirmation because he was upset with Jerry and me.

We are deeply sorry this situation has arisen. We sincerely try to give all county hunters the best confirmation service possible, but from time to time it would appear we will have a problem. We will continue to try to serve you and other County Hunters to obtain those much needed confirmations.

Georgia QSO Party

The 1994 QSO party starts 1800Z, May 7 and ends 2000Z, May 8. Normal rules apply, but no county lines or net contacts. Phone—2 points, CW—4 points. Send SASE for complete rules to Sandy Walker, WB4EVH, 411 Wilson Drive, Centerville GA 31028. Results to Sandy as well.

Torn Envelope

Randy, N8ELQ, advises he had an envelope full of confirmations which he had signed and placed in the mail returned to him empty. There are undoubtedly loose cards in the mail somewhere—please be aware if you have not had all the necessary returns from him. Thankfully this does not happen often!

Mobile Trips Posted Via Packet Radio

Bob, W5VRA, has volunteered to post your itinerary on packet radio if you desire. Please send him your written route at least a week (2 weeks would be better) and he will post the information on a nationwide packet information service as an aid to those looking for counties.

Mailing Survey

Out of curiosity, last month I performed a count of the various sizes of our outgoing envelopes from the Bureau. 55% carried one unit of postage, 25% had two units of postage, and the remainder, 20% had three or more units of postage. These figures include both the cards we are returning after confirmation and those containing cards to be confirmed and returned to the Bureau.

Counties Needed

The following listing is for counties needed by the station indicated. If you will be transmitting from any of these counties, please try to make contact if applicable.

W9SUQ, Larry, 317-874-2331 has 32 counties to go for USA-CA, advises "Do Not make any trips or go out of your way for me. I am not home all the time so check before going." ID: Gem; IA: Keokuk, Monroe; KS: Harper, Pottawatomie; LA: Plaquemines; MI: Chippewa, Newaygo; MO: Andrew, Cole; NE: Phelps; NM: Taos; ND: Bottineau, Mountrail, Rolette, Sioux; OH: Lorain; OR: Yamhill, Columbia; PA: Jefferson, Mifflin, Potter; TN: Lake, Unicoi; VA: Dickerson; WV: Boone, Grant; WI: Burnett, Florence, Vilas, Washburn; WY: Weston. 3/12/94

W2FXA, Gene, 716-655-4162 (one ringer or collect) requests no special trips unless he is on frequency for the following *Fifth Time Around* counties: AR: Logan, Washington; IN: Clark, Montgomery; IA: Lucas, Montgomery; KY: Anderson, Cumberland, Elliott, Hickman, Livingston; MO: Iron, Maries, Sullivan; NE: Deuel; OH: Lorain, Pike, Portage; TN: Anderson, Scott; TX: Johnson; WV: Jackson, McDowell, Taylor, Wyoming. 3/12/94

NB6A, Nell, who has been working on her USA-CA since 1969, is not able to have an antenna at present at home, but will be traveling to the national in June. Any help you could give her while you are also traveling to the convention would be appreciated: AL: Bibb, Elmore, Geneva, Lamar; AR: Baxter; CO: Yuma; GA: Banks, Barrow, Clinch, Colquitt, Dade, Echols, Jeff Davis, Lanier, Macon, Pulaski, Telefair; ID: Jefferson; IL: Carroll; IA: Allamakee, Appanoose, Monroe, Sac, Van Buren, Winneshiek; KS: Elk, Montgomery; KY: Ballard, Breckinridge, Calloway, Crittendon, Elliott, Hancock, Kenton, Knott, Lewis, Menefee; MI: Alcona, Antrim, Benzie, Berrien, Gladwin, Lapeer, Otsego; MN: Carver, Lincoln, Sibley; MS: DeSoto, Kemper, Prentiss, Simpson, Tate; MO: Mercer, Pike; MT: Carbon; NE: Banner, Butler, Clay, Dixon, Polk, Saunders, Thurston; NC: Beaufort, Brunswick, Caldwell, Clay, Cleveland, Edgecomb, Greene, Onslow, Pitt; OH: Carroll, Geauga, Harrison, Monroe, Union, Washington; OK: Alfalfa, Hughes, Overton; TX: Hutchison, Motley, Washington; VA: Buchanan, Dickenson, King & Queen, King William, Lunenburg, Northumberland, Surry. 2/28/94



KA9ACS, Charles, is looking for USA-CA counties as follows: GA: Floyd, Hancock, Murray, Pike; AR: Cleveland, Logan, Newton, Randolph, Stone, Union; MS: Calhoun, Neshoba, Tate, Winston; KS: Clay, Doniphan; ND: Benson, McIntosh, Pembina, Ralph, Sheridan; MT: Treasure, Wibaux; LA: Jackson, St. Helena, Union; PA: Cambria, Crawford, Potter; VA: Northumberland, Warren; WV: Grant, Brooke; TN: Scott, Hardin, Overton; SD: Brule, Hand, Hyde, Marshall, Sanborn, Sully. 3/7/94

KA2CNG, John, 607-797-7891, needs the following to complete *Second Time*: CA: San Luis Obispo, Sonoma; KY: Montgomery, Morgan, Trimble; NE: Banner, Brown; NC: Vance; OH: Seneca; PA: Delaware; VA: Patrick; WV: Barbour, Mineral. 3/1/94

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! Please also remember that some of the awards above require specific qualifications.