

County Hunter News OnLine

September 2026

Volume 22 Issue 9

Welcome to the On-Line County Hunter News, a monthly publication for those interested in ham radio county hunting, with an orientation toward CW operation. We also cover some park chasing activities these days. Contributions of articles, stories, letters, and pictures to the editor are welcomed, and may be included in future issues at the editor's discretion.

The County Hunter News will provide you with interesting, thought provoking articles, articles of county hunting history, or about county hunters or events, ham radio or electronics history, general ham radio interest, and provide news of upcoming operating events.

We hope you will enjoy the County Hunter News. Feel free to forward, or provide links. Permission is given for copying or quoting in part or all provided credit is given to the CHNews and to the author of article.

CW County Hunter Frequencies are 14.0565, 10.124.5, and 7056.5, with activity occasionally on 3556.5 KHz. There is CW activity now occasionally on 7188, 14336., 18136, 21336, 28336 . The CW folks are now pioneering 17M operation on 18.0915. (21.0565, 24.9155, and 28.0565). Look around 18136 or for occasional 17M CW runs usually after the run on 20M CW . (21.336 and 28.336)

You can see live spots of county hunter activity at ch.W6RK.com

For information on county hunting, check out the following resources:

The USACA award was sponsored by CQ Magazine, which unfortunately has gone the way of the dinosaurs. However, like other CQ Awards, they are still available. CQ awards require confirmation of all claimed contacts.

Rules and information are here:

<http://countyhunter.com/cq.htm>

MARAC sponsors the US Counties Award which can be earned in increments of 500 counties. The rules for this award are at:

<http://marac.org/documents/usa-ca-rules.pdf>

This award requires log data only to earn.

For general information FAQ on County Hunting, check out:

<http://countyhunter.com/whatis.htm>

MARAC sponsors an award program for many other county hunting awards. You can find information on these awards and the rules at:

<http://marac.org/awards.pdf>

There is a lot more information at www.countyhunter.com . Please check it out.

Back issues of the County Hunter News are available at www.CHNewsonline.com

De N4CD, Bob Voss, Editor (email: telegraphy@verizon.net)

Notes from the Editor

1) Sunspots – Still have them by the hundreds at times but often under 100 now. Peak was 270 back two years ago, but still up to or near 100 to 120 most days. Along with being near the peak of sunspot activity, we also tend to get lots of solar flares, CME's, etc, that can affect propagation. Some days are good. Some days are very good. Some days are rotten propagation where you struggle to hear the mobiles.

2) Gremlins - One managed to get in last month. If you looked at the Events for County Hunters, it listed the month as July, but the days were correct for August. Hopefully you figured this out and participated in the events. Copy and paste doesn't

always work when you are busy putting the newsletter together tat the last minute.

3) Mail List Servers..... each month, the County Hunter News is 'mailed' to all the subscribers on the 'mailing list' as well as getting uploaded to Chnewsonline.com. For over 20 years, the mail list feature of GoDaddy web site has worked well to get the newsletter out to y'all around the country and the world.

Things change. Do to 'upgrades' in systems, GoDaddy has lost the ability to do simple mail lists. For the past few months, Barry, K2MF, keeper of the mail list, has looked high and low for alternatives. Of course, most companies and groups that have large mail lists also have their own web sites and domains. Well, little ole Chnews can't afford the \$25 or more per month to handle mail lists that providers want for the 'package deal' of web domain, etc. GoDaddy was under \$30/yr and still provides the online and archiver of CHNews. . The alternative is a dozen short mail lists, each one not more than my mail program (AOL mail via Frontier) can handle at one time for BCC. That means you only see your email and not the other subscribers. A big headache and lots of extra work each month.

Thanks for Barry K2MF and KA9JAC, and to the MARAC Board, MARAC has allowed the CHNews to use the mail list server of MARAC.org. Thanks to all that made it possible as we continue our 22nd year of publication.

MARAC Convention

The following folks are signed up to be at the annual MARAC Convention in Ogden UT. Will you be there?

KF7ZN, Ron – Clinton, UT – Host
NF0N, Mike – South Sioux City, NE
W0GXQ, Jerry – Evergreen, CO
AB7NK, Mary – Cordes Lakes, AZ
K7SEN, Neil – Cordes Lakes, AZ
K8ZZ, Ed – Grand Rapids, MN
N8HAM, Jim – South Lyon, MI

AB7RW, Phil – Vancouver, WA
AC7UH, Barbara – Vancouver, WA
NA8W, Darl – Findlay, OH
KA8JQP, Pam – Findley, OH
NU0Q, Bill – Ankeny, IA
NU0Q-XYL, Karen – Ankeny, IA
N2MH, Mark – West Orange, NJ
K2MF, Barry – Stockholm, NJ
N0KV, Barry – Parker, CO
K3IMC, Don – LaGrange, GA
KJ4NIT, Jean – LaGrange, GA
W8OP, Alan – Fairmont, WV
N4CD, Bob – Plano, TX
KV7N, Kent – Gooding, ID
WA9DLB, Tony – Barrington, IL
WA9DLB-XYL, Helen – Barrington, IL
W4SIG Kerry – Springdale, UT

Maryland DC QSO Party

Maryland has 23 counties. Most were not on the air. Most folks reporting on 3830 scores had less than 10 QSO! There were no mobiles and no real scheduled activity.

N1EK fixed MDC 330 SSB

Unfortunately, few MD stations owing to simultaneous major contest WAE.

K5CM fixed OK 14 CW 10 SSB 8 mults

The "State QSO party Challenge" team should not have removed the MDC from their Approved list with such short notice!!!

73, Connie / K5CM

K3PAX fixed MD Multi-Op 71 CW 301 SSB

Well we weren't bored. I would say we were more like anxious to find some Maryland

counties! We did manage to work 9 counties including Garrett and Washington plus 30 states and 2 providence. Plus we were called by S53, I, LY, DL, SP, OM and SP.

We had two of our newest operators that we had the pleasure of teaching more about contesting and station familiarization. One op was a last minute walk in who surprised us and added a good number of Q's to our final score.

20 and 40 were our best bands and we thank all those out of state stations for coming back to our CQ's. We had to go hunting for our own counties.

All of us had a great time and look forward to next year's QSO party.

73 from our crew, N9SG WA3EKL K3MTR KB3VQC N3VUA KC3FMI K0OO
N3DPB

Lake America?

Well, late at night, it seems President Trump got the wonderful idea of renaming Lake Ontario, which is half owned by the US and half by Canada, to now being called Lake America. That would be the US half.

That raises an interesting question.....what happens to Ontario County NY?

What happens to Canadian County Oklahoma?

Are they next to be 'renamed' by President Trump at 3am one morning?

He renamed the Gulf of Mexico to Gulf of America. Did he forget about the state of New Mexico....which he might rename as New America?

Oh well..... while the price of groceries climb and climb,while the wars continue, while prices spike higher and higher due to tariffs..... while gas is \$5 (\$6 in CA), our government is busy renaming things, importing 30.000 pounds of beef that was instantly recalled due to safety concerns.....life goes on.....sort of.....

Ohio QSO Party

There are 88 counties in OH. Looks like most, maybe all were on the air and several mobiles were very busy giving them out. Bands not great but OK.....and thunderstorms about in OH as well. Some folks worked 80 counties.

From 3830 contest reflector:

K8MR mobile 1337 CW 124 SSB

Operator(s): K3LA K8MR

Another fine trip around Ohio, other than the storms that everybody else encountered. The rain around 7pm in Noble county was so heavy we just pulled over and parked for ten minutes, the first time in my mobiling career we needed to do that.

40 meters seemed not so good in the daytime. Maybe everybody was on 20. It was about 7 pm until our 40 meter total caught up with our 20 meter total. But it was gangbusters on 40 after that. And unusual to have such a low 80 meter total.

We had APRS, but the first time we tried to use in to spot us to get a phone pileup going, at a stop in rare Monroe county, there was no cell coverage. I think all our phone QSOs were from moves from CW, with thanks to KU8E for spotting us after we worked him. I did those at the bottom of the phone band on 40 and 20, to avoid QRM and to give the 40 meter HamStick a chance to load up.

The pileups were perhaps the most intense I've ever encountered. As the only serious mobile late in the contest I was a rare new guy, and along with high QRN levels, I had lots of callers and many times the guy I went back to couldn't hear me going back to him over the QRM. But better than nobody coming back!

With delays from the rain and a few confusing detours, we dropped Highland and Clinton counties, and got to our hotel in Springfield not long after the end.

The rain did have one other impact. K3LA and I are bike riders, and we had planned to ride some trails around Columbus on Sunday. But we found the trail flooded out in two directions, so gave up after 9 miles. But Barney located another fine trail in Knox

county, for 40 miles later Sunday afternoon.

Thanks to all who showed up for a good event!

73 - Jim K8MR

W8HCG mobile 324 CW 46 SSB
Operator(s): K2KAR N4HAI

No comments

ND8DX fixed OH 546 cw 573 SSB
Operator(s): K8TCP KB8GAE KE8YJX KE8YMU WB8YHD

Several lines of strong thunderstorms slowly moving through our area in the late afternoon and early evening made for extremely difficult operating conditions. Several close lighting strikes forced us to go QRT and unplug everything which cost us about half an hour. My apologies to all those who were asked for repeated fills during that time period, hard to work anyone with QRN as bad as it was.

The highlight of this contest, for me, was being the VERY FIRST QSO for KJ5DIP. First QSO ever and during a Contest to boot....how cool is that! Hopefully he got "bit" by the Contest bug and will become a "regular" in all our logs. As always a BIG Thank You to all who worked

K8O (W8CAR) Rover 438 cw 37 SSB

Fun day of dodging t storms, driving through rain, losing Android AUTO for a time, not finding one of my parks for the OHQP/POTA rove. Getting finally shut down with tremendous storm at East Harbor State Park.

Pile ups were huge and I managed to muddle through. Everything worked well except for my navigation skill.

TNX to all for the many QSOs; LOTS of fun

Dan W8CAR/K8O

N8KR Rover 323 CW 53 SSB

Paulding, Defiance, Henry, Fulton, VanWert counties. 76 foot Par ended antenna at 30 feet, K3, battery. Two big downpours added to the fun along with the noise that came from them and distant thunder.

K8MFO Rover 526 CW

In spite of some weather, I had a lot of fun. Had a rainstorm in Wayne, my first county. Couldn't get out of the vehicle to remove my hamsticks and move on! In my third county, Stark, I had a massive electrical storm, with attendant QRM and rain. Lost plenty of time again. Finally managed to finish the remainder of my counties. Quit when it got dark. Was on the road for about 8 hours and got in 5 hours and 1 minute of operating time. Happy with the result. Had some terrific pileups, which are always fun.

My operating position was not very comfortable, and needs improvement. Felt like I was upside down in a closet!

Have now been licensed for over 68 years, and CW is still THE GAME I love.
LICKING, and KNOX
73

Don K8MFO Rover in 8 counties WAYNE, TUSCARAWAS, STARK, HOLMES,
COSHOCOTON, MUSKINGUM,

W8RU Rover 160 cw 78 SSB

Operator(s): KC8VGG W8RU

The party started slow due to storms moving across northern Ohio. Conditions and activity recovered nicely as the day went on. Had some great runs on 20m CW and 40m SSB, and even made some QSOs on 15m. The 40m antenna was a dipole supported by either a tree or a light pole. The 20m antenna was a ground-mounted quarter-wave vertical with 6 radials. Both antennas played well.

Thanks for the QSOs and 73! -Ron (W8RU) and Bill (KC8VGG)

OM2VL fixed DX 190 cw 100 ssb CW Mults 75 Ph Mults 57

This year again not on the same weekend OH and KS QP, so I can enjoy 99% the Ohio QP (I worked also 18 KH6 station)

Nice activity and good condx on 20/15m also during the night. Unfortunately 80m was very bad. Last year 40 QSO, now only 6 :(I called some other stations also but no luck. Unfortunately some mobiles was only on 40m and many stations only behind of 7200 where EU can't work. I missed some multipliers sure and who know how many QSO ...

My big thanks to mobiles who was also on 20/15m (when 40m was closed here) and who QSY on SSB for SSB multiplier!

I had few times short but nice SSB RUN, thanks a lot for the multipliers!

I missed only 8 counties: WOOD, ERIE, MARI, MORR, CHAM, TUSC, HIGH, PIKE.

Most QSOs:

K8MR 55/22

W8HCG 15/8

K8O 11/6

K8RYU 9/7

K8MFO 6/6

(7): KW8N, WO4O

(6): AB3AH, KE8PX

(5): K8BF, K8T, K9NW, ND8DX

(4): 7x

73, Laci

Hawaii QSO Party

This year the contest was 36 hours instead of the former 48. Some of the HI stations were still cleaning up after a hurricane made a near hit, but dupled over a foot of rain quickly on the Big Island.

As usual, there are more than the 5 counties of HI as multipliers, plus you count them again on different bands.

From 3830 contest reflector:

N6RO fixed CA 21 cw 8 ssb 12 dig 21 mults

Prior to the contest, I decided to just put in some time Sat. night on 40/80, as my partner in 2025, WU6P, is out of the country. But the old urge caused me to make a few Qs on the high bands, Saturday mid-afternoon. Later, WD6T offered to join me for a M/S effort, and he would do the FT operation remotely. (I don't do FT, and think that FT has no place in contests with the analog modes - the op doesn't make QSOs, the computer does). So, Dave made all of our FT Qs, in addition to his remote operations as WD6T/KH6 and W1AW/KH6 from KH6TU's station, tnx Alan! I used another position in my shack, using my secondary antennas, a TH6, and 2L 40m vertical array pointing west. N1mm reports that my station was on for 4:18, but we spend a few more hours tuning the bands. All in all, it was a semi-serious/casual operation. Activity from the islands was down, mostly from the hurricane. We hope no one was injured, and that all recover their antennas.

Aloha, N6RO

WD6T/KH6 370 SSB

Many thanks to KH6TU for allowing me to remote to his FB station on Maui. I was also active for a few hours as W1AW/KH6 from the same station.

Remote: QK4 Software with Elecraft K-Pod and Halikey for foot-pedal PTT. Worked FB!

Station: Elecraft K4, KPA-1500, StepIR Yagi

AH7RF fixed Hawaii, HI 414 CW

Hello from Kawaihae, Big Island!

Not a lot of KH6 guys, likely because of the hurricane last weekend and the tropical storm this weekend. A lot of hams have damaged antennas, and a lot of people in Hawaii still don't have power. The hurricane damaged my hexbeam, and it was a busy week to get it setup as far as I did - it's about 8 ft up, on top of a Rohn 9H50 mast, an upgrade from the 15ft water pipe I used before. I don't have the guy wire necessary to raise it all the way, yet, and with the winds expected this weekend, felt ok leaving it at 8ft. It worked quite well!

I appreciate all the spotting you guys did, and I also appreciate your attempts to get me to QSY to other bands. Sometimes worked, sometimes not. I tried, off and on, to get 10m to work, but it was hard (I'd call CQ for a bit, and if no RBN spots, back to another band). But I was able to get a few contacts there!

This was a mostly full time effort, except a few hours on Saturday lost to work, and of course breaks for food and sleep, and some unexpected chores. I'm happy with my score, band conditions were good, I felt LOUD. Next year will be better, less hurricanes and tropical storms and a higher antenna, I hope?

It was a whole lot of fun to be the top one on the contest online score thingy... Need to teach the other KH6 guys to use it, ha!

Thanks very much for the contacts ☐ ☐

Aloha and 73

Heather AH7RF

Kansas QSO Party

Held last weekend of August and no time for ass stations to report – so we'll cover it more next month! There were LOTS of mobiles – over 6....zipping around the state – CW and ssb. Most counties covered both modes, both days.

From the early birds reporting on 3830.....

N0T mobile.....N5OT operator 1362 cw

Congrats to Bob, WØBH, for putting on another great party! The Kansas QSO Party does not disappoint EVER. Wow. That was fun. Thank you to everybody for making this such a fantastic event.

Thanks especially to everyone who figured out how to tolerate the obvious fact my PTT sequencing/Delay was wonky. Of course I'll fix that for the next time.

It was not made easier by the fact that I operated the whole effort while driving.

'Me and the RadioCar' are back home safe in Oklahoma. Maybe next year is the year I can clear the entire weekend and see how it goes for 18 hours.

Until then,

73 - Mark N5OT

N0R mobile N5NA operator 1501 CW

Thanks to the following stations for contributing more than half the QSOs:
N5RZ(43), K9CW(36), N7IR(35), N0HJZ(29), W5LXS(29), W8PI(27), N6MU(27),
N5TJ(26), VE3YT(25), N8II(22), N4OX(22), OM2VL(21), NE8P(21), W2TB(20),

NW0M(19), WB9HFK(18), NX3A(16), K2DFC(15), N6AR(15), WA8ZBT(14), N3YT(14), N9NM(14), VE3CT(13), K4BAI(13), W4NZ(13), K3TW(12), AA5JF(12), VE7ZO(12), WB2PJH(11), W1QK(11), WQ6X(11), KD8FS(11), NO5W(10), KN0V(10), W1WEF(10), W4UT(10), N7EPD(10), K0XF(10), K2ZR(10), WA0LIF(9), WA3AER(9), W0UC(9), WB8ASI(9), W2RQ(9), K4EJ(8), AK7G(8), WA5SOG(8)

K0A - operator K5CM mobile 2531 cw 634 ssb

It was Hot at 105 degrees. Although the weather may have been hot, the space weather at the start of the party was not great. Conditions improved toward the evening, and were much better on Sunday. Pam (W0B/N5KW) and I were both Single-Op so we shared the radio, although she says that she shares more than me.

W0B N5KW operator 402 cw 608 SSB

Connie, K5CM, didn't lie. It was HOT and I DID accuse him of hogging the radio! He did make it up to me however by taking us to see Big Brutus on Friday! My first thought was we could put an antenna on that 170 ft beast and not have to worry about guys:)

KS is always fun because of how well W0BH and his crew come up with all kinds of contests inside the contest for the less serious testers. There were some great runrates, big signals, and not quite so big signals. It's always fun to work the regulars, and hopefully the newbies become regulars.

W0W mobile NR0P operator 606 SSB QSO

Compared to 2025 I used the same route, same truck, same antennas, same rig, and the same schedule of stops. Also, the same excellent navigator, my wife, was at the helm.

The results this year were much worse.

I can only come to the conclusion that getting older really does decrease performance. Or hopefully, the band conditions were worse...

Thanks for all of the QSOs.

73,
Todd - W0W - Whiskey Zero Whiskey
aka NR0P

W0O Rover W0ZQ operator 1966 cw 408 SSB

My 13th KSQP as a one-man mobile/rover, and what a blast! Yea, it was hot but that's what the 14 bottles of water in the cooler were for. Yea, no 15m this year, but 20m and especially 40m performed well along with a little bit of 80m. There was not a lot of DX this year, OM2VL was present (as usual), but domestic propagation was OK.

The CW pile-ups were at times something to behold. Tips for those working to crack the pile up; moved up or down frequency a little bit as 70% of the callers are all on the same spot frequency and all sending at the same speed. Don't be afraid to send a little faster.

A big thanks to Bob, W0BH, for his work on this and for allowing us to have so much fun. Also thanks to all the KSQP participants for the Qs. God willing, see you for 14th time next year. 73, Jon

K0W Rover K0AP operator 1929 CW

The equipment worked fine without any issues. Ran 24 counties across Kansas, driving East to West and back. Despite higher K and A, 20 and 40m were in good shape for domestic contacts. Worked OM2VL in all counties!

The participation was great, with often heavy pileups. Saturday evening met with Bruce K0BJ (W0S) and he invited me to stay at his QTH. We had a great time chatting about DX, Contest etc. Another great KSQP is in the books. As always, Bob W0BH has done an amazing job organizing this event. TNX to all who called/participated. It was well worth my time and effort driving all those hundreds of miles. See you again in 2027!

73 Dragan K0W (K0AP)

N0L Rover N0QD operator 259 cw 39 ssb

It was another great KSQP. Temperatures over 100 this time made it a little more challenging than last year. Saturday operating was from home after a few days of very

early starts at work. Sunday began with a re-route of my rove to cover ELS/SAL/LCN and a stop in MCP on the way home. It was great to hear new and long-time operators and hopefully participate in a few sweeps.

This was my first time operating CW in the KSQP. I've been studying and practicing for the last couple of years, and I think I managed to make a reasonable showing this time. The fear of working a pileup on phone wore off a long time ago, but the first couple of CQs on 20m put me right back in the newbie seat. Thanks to all of the ops who slowed down, repeated, and were generally patient with me as I got my brain cells firing and dug you out of the mayhem. Pressing F1 to send the first CQ on Saturday was scary, but it got easier and I'll definitely be back.

I had a few noise issues to sort out, including from my truck, which meant some of the operations were without a/c. The radio overheated and shut down a few times. Sorry to those who witnessed me disappear in the middle of a QSO. Mostly attributed to the weather, but I found an antenna issue that may have contributed to the problem. Lessons learned, and better next year.

Thanks to all who participated, and especially Bob, W0BH for organizing another great party!

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More next month.....

IC-7110 Announced

The new IC-7110 transceiver was announced at the Tokyo Hamfest this past month. While pricing and trpe acceptance ae pending, you can find the following specs online.

From Gigaparts page description:

The Icom IC-7110 represents the next evolutionary step in mobile HF/VHF/UHF all-mode transceivers, building upon the technology first previewed under the prototype development code name X-026. Engineered to bridge high-end benchtop performance with accessible field operations, this upcoming radio will undoubtedly combine advanced RF processing with an intuitive interface designed for modern operators.

Highlights

Comprehensive Mode & Frequency Capabilities: Output reaches 100W on HF/50MHz alongside 50W on 144/430MHz, supporting dualwatch reception for simultaneous HF/VHF, HF/UHF, and DV signals.

4.3-Inch Touchscreen Interface: Utilizes an intuitive display architecture modeled on the IC-705, incorporating real-time high-speed waterfall visuals, audio scope functionality, and illuminated hardware buttons.

Remote Control Unit: A slim, remote head that integrates a front-mounted speaker, microphone and headset ports, a micro-SD card interface, and a USB-C port.

Integrated Wireless & Data Features: Equipped with built-in Wi-Fi, Bluetooth® (v5.3), GPS, USB Type-C interface, dual antenna ports, CW/RTTY decoding, and D-STAR.

Availability & Release Information

Unveiling happened at the Tokyo Ham Fair on August 29th, but official announcements regarding availability, retail pricing, and shipping schedules have not yet been released.

This radio features a scanning receiver, so we will be unable to offer it for sale until it is FCC certified. Until then, click the button above to be notified when the product is officially available for sale.

Optional Accessories:

MBA-19 desktop stand for IC-7110 control head

MBA-20 dash mount for IC-7110 control head

BT-002 Bluetooth headset/mic

Specifications:

4.3" display with automatic backlight dimming

HF, 6m, 2m, 70cm

Modes: SSB, CW, RTTY, AM, FM, DV

Transmit power: 100W on HF and 6m, 50W on 2m/70cm

GPS

500 regular memory channels, 4 call channels and 2,500 repeater list channels

Wi-Fi (2.4GHz, 5GHz)

Bluetooth

Features:

- Voice recording and playback

- Screen capture

- Online software updates

- Dual-watch

- Realtime spectrum scope

Audio scope to check modulation characteristics of the other station's signal, your own mic compressor effect. It can also be used to check filter width and notch filter characteristics or your CW keying waveform.

- Independent receive circuits for the HF/6M and the 2m/70cm bands.

- CW/RTTY decoder (from the IC-7300Mk2)

D-STAR features include terminal mode, access point mode, DV repeater monitor function. Send, receive and view images without a computer or smart phone connected.

- Fully compatible with RS-BA1 v2

- Newly designed power amplifier

- Aluminum die-cast frame with active cooling

Control Head:

- 200mm wide x 83.5mm high x 36.2 mm deep

- 1.0 watt forward-facing speaker

- AMPS holes for versatile installation options

- 1/4"x20 (traditional camera tripod mount)

micro-SD card slot for saving memory data, repeater lists, contact logs, image data and GPS logs

- Ports on control head

 - Mic (RJ-45 jack)

 - Control cable (RJ-45 jack)

 - Headphone (3.5mm)

 - Telegraph key (3.5mm)

Ports on Main Body:

- Antenna ports: 2ea SO-239

- Ethernet: 1ea RJ-45 jack

- USB-C (computer will recognize two serial ports)

- ACC port (DIN)

- External Tuner

Elec-key
Control head interface
DC power
Ground lug
External speaker jack: 2ea 3.5mm
Remote jack
Data jack

DV-mode App

RS-MS3A (Android) and RS-MS3i (iOS)

The RS-MS3 apps are designed to expand the DV mode capability of D-STAR transceivers, like the IC-7110, using Terminal or Access Point mode. These modes allow a D-STAR transceiver to communicate with the D-STAR network over the internet when the transceiver is out of range of a D-STAR repeater.

Mobile Activity in August

At the beginning of the month:

W0GXQ and NF0N spotted running counties in IA for several days

W8OP noted in NC counties for several days, then into VA for more days.

All quiet other than POTA for a couple days

Around the 12th, KB6UF active in LA parishes.

N8MD ran counties in IA

KB6UF again busy in LA and MS

N0KV headed to WY for counties - a couple days - then more across the state to the seldom run ones. Then hooked up with Christine, WY7ML for more. (YL/OM team)

After a few day break, W8OP again running NC counties.

KB6UF again active for a day in MS, LA

MARAC Convention

Welcome to Utah where we will be having the MARAC National Convention!!!! Ogden, Utah to be exact.

Here is a preliminary outline of the convention. I hope to have everything finalized by the end of February with bios, presentation summaries, websites, etc.. There may be some changes as I work through everything. The convention will be the weekend of September Friday 18th and Saturday 19th, 2026.

Friday:

Breakfast- everyone on their own.

Presentation 9:30-10:30 by Don K3IMC

Presentation 11:00-12:00 by Ron KF7ZN. A Visit to the Sun and the Ionosphere

Lunch 12:30-1:30

Field Trip to Hill Air Museum 2:00-4:00PM They have guided tours. Hill Aerospace Museum is a military aviation museum located at Hill Air Force Base, one of our nation's biggest and best aviation museums.

Dinner 6:00 pm

Slide show with slides of members and their activities during the year.

Along with dinner we will have a historical club present that has some very interesting presentations on history of the West.

Saturday:

Breakfast everyone on their own

Presentation 9:30 to 10:30 Bob Carter WR7Q History of CW and how to improve your skills

Presentation 11-12:00 Jed Petrovich AD7KG Mobile and Portable antennas

Lunch 12:30 to 1:30

MARAC Board meeting 1:30-2:30

Harvest Moon Celebration In the afternoon people can attend the Harvest Moon celebration- Live music, fall-themed photo stations, and sometimes rock climbing and axe throwing., etc.

Dinner 6:30 pm, speaker from Rio Grande Railroad club on History of Railroads in the West

Prizes

see the MARAC.ORG site or the Road Runner for lots more detail now! Also registration page

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there are some fantastic National Parks and other sites in Utah and nearby. Plan your trip to visit a few of them if you're driving out tht way!

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The Hotel is Tru by Hilton. This is a new 'economy' chain by Hilton. There is one here in my burb.....next to one of my favorite restaurants – The Bavisan Grill. Have seen it 50 times. Looks like a nice NEW building and the by Hilton should indicate quality service.

Rate is \$112 for King room, \$122 for two queen bed rooms, plus tax. Always plus tax –

hi hi. The MARAC event is Friday and Saturday, but you'll want to arrive Thursday and leave Sunday. I'm sure you could extend the stay if you want. Info is on the MARAC.ORG site, You can register for the convention there and also go directly to the Hotel site and register for your room there.

The hotel provides free hot breakfast, too! Eggs, pancakes, oatmeal plus lots of toppings and goodies.

For MARAC registration, you can send a check or use PayPal for the nominal convention.

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2026 National registrations received:

KF7ZN, Ron – Clinton, UT – Host
NF0N, Mike – South Sioux City, NE
W0GXQ, Jerry – Evergreen, CO
AB7NK, Mary – Cordes Lakes, AZ
K7SEN, Neil – Cordes Lakes, AZ
K8ZZ, Ed – Grand Rapids, MN
N8HAM, Jim – South Lyon, MI
AB7RW, Phil – Vancouver, WA
AC7UH, Barbara – Vancouver, WA
NA8W, Darl – Findlay, OH
KA8JQP, Pam – Findley, OH
NU0Q, Bill – Ankeny, IA
NU0Q-XYL, Karen – Ankeny, IA
N2MH, Mark – West Orange, NJ
K2MF, Barry – Stockholm, NJ
N0KV, Barry – Parker, CO
K3IMC, Don – LaGrange, GA
KJ4NIT, Jean – LaGrange, GA
W8OP, Alan – Fairmont, WV
N4CD Bob – Plano, TX

Hotel rate for MARAC expires Sept 1. Do it now!

Colorado QSO Party

The Colorado QSO Party will happen on Saturday, September 12.

We revised the 2026 rules - to specifically be more POTA and mobile friendly.

County activations are being announced here: <https://coloradoqsoparty.org/activations/>

We would welcome not only chasers - but perhaps some of the CH / MARAC gang would want to activate some of our rural counties as they come across CO enroute to the convention in Utah.

Our mobiles are being made aware of the MARAC's county-line requirements - and I know some will definitely be set up in accordance with them. We are promoting county-line operations.

Lots of good info at: coloradoqsoparty.org

Many thanks & 73,

~ Alan K0AV

Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado

COQP, Task Force

New USCA Holder #1279

New USCA holder

W8SP completed all counties for 1st time. They received #1279

Awards Issued

USA-CA

W8SP completed all counties for 1st time. They received #1279

KB8QNE Level 500. Assigned #3933

WB4EVH Level 500. Assigned #3934

WB4EVH Level 1000. Assigned #2008

WB4EVH Level 1500. Assigned #1645

WV4EVH Level 2000. Assigned #1502

WB4EVH Level 2500. Assigned #1411

WB4EVH Level 3000. Assigned #1309

KD8DEU Level 2500. Assigned #1412

UT1KW/RIVNE DX Club attained Level 500. They were awarded #3932

W8SP completed Level 3000. He was assigned #1310

JI6BEN completed Level 500. He was assigned #3935

RN1ON Completed Level 1500. He was assigned #1646

Bingo – First Time

K8MW completed all 3077 counties for his first Bingo. He received \$376

Roadrunner Award:

NF0N attained 525 last counties. He received #41

WYOA attained 675 last counties. He received #30

Digital Award:

N9EAT attained Level 1000. He received #24

Single Band Award:

N9EAT attained Level 1000 ON 40 METERS. hE RECEIVED #9

NA8W attained Level 1000 on 6 meters. He received #3

NA8W attained Level 1000 on 17 meters. He received #10

NA8W attained level 1000 on 30 meters. He received #8

NA8W attained level 1000 on 40 meters. He received #10

NA8W attained level 1000 on 80 meters. He received #13

NA8W attained level 1000 on 20 meters. He received #4

AA8R attained level 2000 on 80 meters, He received #7

A8R attained level 2000 on 30 meters, He received #9

OM2VL attained Level 1000 on 10 meters. He received #10

OM2VL attained Level 2000 on 15 meters. He received #10

OM2VL attained Level 3000 on 20 meters. He received #2

OM2VL attained Level 2000 on 40 meters. He received #8

OM2VL attained Level 1000 on 80 meters. He received #14

YL Mobile Award:

NA8W attained level 100. He received #4

YL/OM Team Award:

NA8W attained level 250. He received #1 That's all Folks

USCA-SSB All Sideband Award

K4YT completed all 3077 counties on sideband. He received #5

USCA-CW All CW Award

KD8DEU completed all 3077 using CW Mode: He received #171

Events for County Hunters

The ARRL didn't publish the September issue of the Contest Corral.....you'll have to dig up the info yourself.....

other than the County Hunter Convention !!!!

from WA7BNM site for state QSO Parties

September

Tennessee + Tennessee QSO Party 1700Z, Sep 6 to 0300Z, Sep 7, 2026

New Jersey + New Jersey QSO Party 1400Z, Sep 12 to 0200Z, Sep 13, 2026

Colorado + Colorado QSO Party 1400Z, Sep 12 to 0359Z, Sep 13, 2026

Texas + Texas QSO Party 1400Z, Sep 19 to 0200Z, Sep 20, 2026 and
1400Z-2000Z, Sep 20, 2026

Iowa + Iowa QSO Party 1400Z, Sep 19 to 0200Z, Sep 20, 2026

New Hampshire + New Hampshire QSO Party 1600Z, Sep 19 to 0400Z, Sep 20, 2026 and 1200Z-2200Z, Sep 20, 2026

Washington + Washington State Salmon Run 1600Z, Sep 19 to 0700Z, Sep 20, 2026 and 1600Z-2400Z, Sep 20, 2026

Maine + Maine QSO Party 1200Z, Sep 26 to 1200Z, Sep 27, 2026

That's all Folks.....