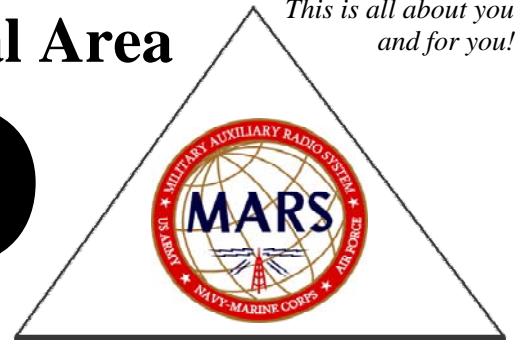


The TRIAD

Pride - Tradition - Service



Florida Wins Green "C" Award For Calendar Year 2010

Competition is all around us. Candidates running for elective office are competing against one another. The beginning of football season is already upon us. Competition is a contest between individuals, businesses and a wide variety of different group-ings for prizes, recognition, standing, elective and/or appointed office, wealth, prestige and fame. Competition occurs naturally and it has the capability of causing individuals, companies, sports groups and many other entities to develop new and better products, new and better skills as well as new and better services to others. Competition, as we well know, can also bring about lower prices.

In Region Four there is a triad of states that have mostly dominated the top three positions in the annual race to win the coveted Green C Award. This triad is made up of Alabama, Florida and Georgia. The written records of award winners of this Green C Award only go back to 1993 - that was when we were in Region Two. It was kept alive when we moved to Region Four. During these 19 years of written records of Green C winners, Alabama has won this coveted award seven times. That

is almost 37 % of the time. Georgia has carried home this award 4 times, or 21% of the time. And now Florida has racked up a win for the third time in four years (Georgia & Florida shared the Green C Award in 2009).

It was pointed out above that competition can lower prices; by the same token, competition for the Green C Award can also lower the number of mistakes we make relative to emergency communication exercises and more to the point, in formatting and reporting an actual event. Obviously competition for the Green C Award is most desirable as demonstrated by the three top states in Region Four. Thus it is hoped that those states in Region Four who have taken little or no interest in being active competitors for this award will now be motivated to enter the contest with their very best efforts to carry home this award, in some cases, for the very first time! Everyone who participates with an all out effort to win the Green C Award is a winner! The number of members in your state is not the deciding factor toward winning this award. It is the performance you turn in as outlined on page 2.

The Green C Award had its origin from the U. S. Navy's **Command Excellence Awards**. A Command Excellence Award means that the ship that bears it has proven to be superior to all other ships in the squadron in a certain field of operations. A **C Award** was for recognition of the ship's Communication Department, and when painted on the ship's bridge it was painted green.

On the whole we are not as good or as great as we can be. There is room for a lot of improvement. Let's turn to with zeal to improve our skills as communicators and have fun doing it by vying for the Green C Award!



Green “C” Statistics For 2010

Region four

ITEM	Points	AL	FL	GA	KY	MS	NC	SC	TN	PR
EMER COMM	30.00	30.00	30.00	27.00	4.00	9.00	21.00	28.00	6.50	0.00
NET OPS	25.00	24.76	24.96	25.00	23.01	22.00	21.20	22.74	24.00	0.69
MEMBERSHIP	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.00
COMM OF QUARTER	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	3.00	2.00	4.00	4.00	0.00	0.00
CHMARS AWARDS	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FREQ REPORTS	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	10.00	11.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
QAS	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
ADMIN NET	12.00	12.00	12.00	11.50	6.50	5.50	9.00	10.50	6.00	4.00
TOTALS	99.00	98.76	98.96	95.50	64.51	62.50	80.20	91.24	62.50	20.69
FINAL POSITION		2	1	3	6	7 TIE	5	4	7 TIE	8

Green “C” Winners 1993 --- 2010

Alabama ----- 1993	Alabama ----- 2003
Alabama ----- 1994	Alabama ----- 2004
Georgia ----- 1995	Alabama ----- 2005
West Virginia ----- 1996	Alabama ----- 2006
Georgia ----- 1997	Alabama ----- 2007
West Virginia ----- 1998	Florida ----- 2008
West Virginia ----- 1999	Florida ----- 2009
Georgia ----- 2000	Georgia ----- 2009
Virginia ----- 2001	Florida ----- 2010
Kentucky ----- 2002	

Central Area Conference - 2011 AWARDS, Region Four

COMMUNICATOR/MEMBER OF THE YEAR - 2010

“Mike,” NNN0IBM FL

Top Three States --- Florida, Alabama, Georgia

LETTERS OF COMMENDATION - 2010

Samuel	NNN0SYF
Henry	NNN0IIE
Adrian	NNN0BGV
David	NNN0LES
Donald	NNN0ICX
Marion	NNN0IBM

William	NNN0TJC
George	NNN0OEE
Robert	NNN0BTG
James	NNN0SYH
Ben	NNN0JQC

CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION - 2010

Joe	NNN0BTJ
William	NNN0YTR
Donald	NNN0YUD
Dale	NNN0AZP
Raymond	NNN0EVT
Leroy	NNN0EZC
Fred	NNN0QAA
Henry	NNN0QKC
Theodore	NNN0SWK
Robert	NNN0TDK
Charles	NNN0YGY
Bill	NNN0TJC
Donald	NNN0SDL
Donald	NNN0ICX
Robert	NNN0BTG
Adrian	NNN0BGV
George	NNN0OEE

Clifford	NNN0BFG
Henry	NNN0IIE
William	NNN0SFO
James	NNN0SYH
Marion	NNN0IBM
William	NNN0LHR
Danny	NNN0BDW
Thomas	NNN0UVL
Larry	NNN0TQV
Bruce	NNN0KBN
Jeffery	NNN0JKF
Lynn	NNN0LYN
Thomas	NNN0BIF
Oscar	NNN0ONX
David	NNN0LES
Samuel	NNN0SYF

Central Area Conference - 2011

AWARDS, Region Five

MEMBER OF THE YEAR - 2010

James, NNN0KBP

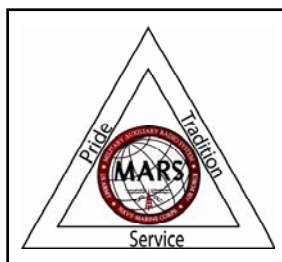
LETTERS OF COMMENDATION - 2010

David	NNN0AJB
Paul	NNN0BOK
Roger	NNN0BUX
David	NNN0EPY
Michael	NNN0EVQ
David	NNN0GKQ
James	NNN0HAC
Herman	NNN0ITN
Leroy	NNN0KRX
Arthur	NNN0LWN
James	NNN0ORE
John	NNN0ORJ
Anthony	NNN0SCV
Ed	NNN0TDA
Robert	NNN0ULK
Arthur	NNN0UNK
Robert	NNN0ZIJ

CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION - 2010

Levi	NNN0AKT
Kirk	NNN0ANN
Max	NNN0AQK
Vincent	NNN0BIH
Bruce	NNN0BQH
Richard	NNN0FKV
Harley	NNN0FKW
Raymond	NNN0IXF
Steven	NNN0KQE
John	NNN0KRQ
Al	NNN0KZC
Roy	NNN0OON
Collenn	NNN0SWA
Robert	NNN0SXU
Don	NNN0VJM
Perry	NNN0VNO
James	NNN0WZM
Robert	NNN0XYA
Thomas	NNN0YBE

My thanks to NNN0TAK FL for the Green C Award picture on page 1, and to NNN0TQV FL for his antenna article on page 8.



The Central Area Newsletter, **The TRIAD**, is published for the enjoyment and edification of Navy-Marine Corps MARS members. The contents **do not** reflect official Navy positions. EDITOR: Ben NNN0JQC/NNN0ASG EIGHT. 3301 Shannon Rd, Albany, GA 31721-1541. E-Mail: ka4rhh@bellsouth.net. Central Area Director: Dave NNN0ASG MI. Deputy Director Central Area: Steve NNN0ASG ONE IL. Director Region Four: Jack NNN0AS4 GA. Director Region Five: Tim NNN0AS5 MN. **This is your Newsletter. Your input is wanted!**

Central Area Conference

Drury Inn - Paducah, KY, 18 June 2011

The meeting was opened with a welcoming by David Ouellette, Central Area Director, NNN0ASG, with introductions of members present. There were sixteen members in attendance from the state of Illinois, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee. Four additional members from the states of Florida, Indiana, Michigan and Minnesota participated via a Skype audio connection.

Bo Lindfors, NNN0ASA, provided a power point presentation. The Armed Forces Day cross band test was very successful and had seven naval stations operating. There was a total of 1,923 cross band contacts made not only with amateur radio operators in the United States, but also several with European amateurs.

The current organization of Navy-Marine Corps MARS does not include any Navy personnel. Chief Navy-Marine Corps MARS now reports to the Commanding Officer, NCTAMS LANT. The radio stations NAV 1, 3, 4 and 5 have been closed down. Region Four currently has 398 members and Region Five has 241. This yields a current Central Area membership of 639. There are also seventeen Agency Memberships and thirty Club Memberships.

NTP (8) is undergoing a major revision. All Chapters and Annexes are being updated. The Joint Voice Standard Operating Procedure is incorporated into Chapter 7 and a new Chapter 8 that addresses digital modes is included.

VHF repeaters must be changed to narrow band operation when upgraded or newly installed. Kenwood and Motorola equipment is available. It takes a long time to get equipment approval. The KDK25 is an acceptable narrow band mobile radio.

NAVMARCORMARS will be the only provider of HF communications in the Navy. The Navy is closing down their HF operations and will use satellite communications. A CD of data will be sent in the future to all SHARES members. Also coming in the future is a SHARES website.

Karl, NNN0VBH, made a presentation on VHF Stations and Repeaters. He covered six topics:

VHF Channels --- Navy MARS VHF Channels --- Personal Stations --- Repeater Stations --- Operational Restrictions --- What About Digital (D-STAR)?

The frequency 148.4 Mhz is available for FM Simplex operation in all states of the Continental United States. A member's usage of this frequency must be reported in their Monthly Participation Report. The frequency and number of hours of use are entered in the "OTHER" category in the report.

David, NNN0LES, made a presentation on PSKMAIL. It is a program that uses FLDIGI and PSK500 ARQ sound card mode. It operates with full ARQ at speeds up to about 400 WPM. It is JAVA based and uses full Navy MARS call signs. There are currently eight servers in the system. This system permits the forwarding of traffic without the use of the internet. Information can be found on the website <http://navymars.zapto.org> relative to being a client or server. David is ready to assist any member interested in this mode of operation and requests he be contacted by telephone when a member is ready to set up the program.

David, NNN0EPY, indicated the AIRMAIL program continues to be developed using PACTOR I, II and III with the current version now compatible with WINDOWS 7. He is working on the development of the program for use in MARS as well as SHARES. AIRMAIL has addressing features that permit messages to be sent to multiple addresses from a single address. Like PSKMAIL, the program permits the forwarding of traffic without the use of the internet. Contact NNN0EPY for additional information.

The awards dinner was held at the Outback Restaurant. James, NNN0KBP IN, was the recipient of the Member of the Year Award, and "Mike," NNN0IBM FL, was the recipient of the Communicator of the Year Award.

---David, NNN0GKQ MI

Central Area Conference Attendees Paducah, KY, June 18, 2011

NNN0ASA VA	Bo	Chief, NAVMARCORMARS
NNN0EPY MI	David	NNN0ASG
NNN0LBZ IL	Steve	NNN0ASG ONE
NNN0BUX MI	Roger	NNN0GAY TWO
NNN0VBH OH	Karl	NNN0ASG SEVEN
NNN0LES KY	David	
NNN0KBP IN	Jim	NNN0GAQ THREE
NNN0AHE GA	Mike	NNN0GAM THREE
NNN0XPU KY	Jackie	
NNN0LSO KY	Robert	NNN0GAT TWO/FOUR
NNN0BDW KY	Danny	NNN0GAT
NNN0BTJ KY	Joe	
NNN0GKQ MI	David	NNN0ASG FOUR
NNN0ANX TN	Frank	NNN0GBU TEN
NNN0LHK IL	Dennis	
NNN0BON IN	BOB	NNN0GAQ TWELVE

AFDAY Cross Band Test

NAJ Naval Station. Great Lakes, IL -----	431
NBL Subase, Groton, CT -----	180
NNN0ASF South Area Director -----	267
NUW NAS, Whidbey Island, WA -----	56
NWKJ Ex-USS YORKTOWN -----	637
NWVC Ex-USS LST 325 -----	<u>217</u>
Total -----	1923

Current Membership Numbers

Central Area

Region Four

--- Alabama -----	32
--- Florida -----	74
--- Georgia -----	40
--- Kentucky -----	36
--- Mississippi -----	14
--- North Carolina --	44
--- South Carolina --	65
--- Tennessee -----	61
--- Puerto Rico -----	26
Region Four Total ----	398

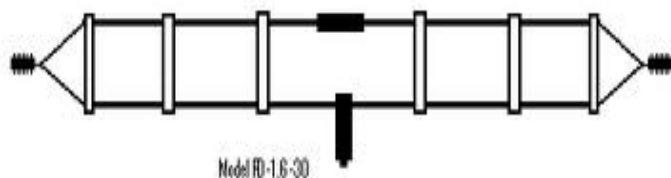
Region Five

--- Illinois -----	45
--- Indiana -----	47
--- Michigan -----	34
--- Minnesota -----	29
--- Ohio -----	51
--- Wisconsin -----	34
Region Five Total ---	241
Central Area Total -	639



My thanks to Bo, NNN0ASA for these pictures, and to David, NNN0ASG for sending them to me. Many thanks to David, NNN0GKQ MI, and to Mike, NNN0AHE GA, for their outstanding reports on the Central Area Conference in Paducah on June 18, 2011. Their reports made this a special edition.

An Antenna That Helps To Reduce



NOISE

NOISE ON MARS FREQUENCIES

When our bands were strong we did not need to worry about noise but now with the the cycle getting very active, anything we can do will be a help. I am not an expert, but I have done a lot of research to see what would help, so take what you wish and I bid you good luck.

Outside I have been using the same antenna design for many years and kept making small changes. I use one antenna for all bands, so let me explain it:

It is a folded dipole that is broad in its coverage. Just some ground rules, I believe that a 4 to 1 balun is unnecessary (unless you are running only coax), and is only a resistor in your antenna system, remove it and gain 20% more power in your antenna. The length of the antenna is as long as you can make it over 90 feet, mine is about 112 feet (because that is the room I have) The separators are 3/4" PVC 2 feet long. Mine is 40 feet up at the ends and droops to about 25 feet in the center. You must feed with ladder line and let me share a system that has worked for me for many years. I run two coax lines which connect to the antenna tuner. Make sure that the center connectors are attached to the balanced line outputs of your antenna tuner and that the shields are grounded to the tuner and to ground. Run them out of the house and then peel back the outer braid and tape it off. The shields is not connected at this end. This will prevent stray RF from getting out of the coax and interference in. Take one of the center coax leads and connect to one side of the ladder line and the other center lead to the other side of the ladder line. Ladder line and coax can be of any length. As you can see I make no effort to match any SWR, it is totally

unimportant, as long as we can match the needs of the transmitter with our antenna tuner, the wire only radiates and no further matching is needed. The other end of the ladder line is attached, one to each side of the antenna. The connection should be as close to center of the dipole as you can get. You can tune up your antenna tuner and go on the air at this point. Now for the little extra that helps quite a bit, The termination resistor which is shown on the top wire of the diagram, is very important and no one can tell you the exact value you need ahead of time. For the most part it is slightly higher in ohms than the ladder line you are using. When the antenna is completed just lower it enough to get a good reading at the two ends of the top wire (where you will put the resistor). I take an old CD disk, install a 2000 ohm pot in the center, put a tie wrap around the handle. Take a ohm meter and start with 0 and make several readings as you turn the pot and write on the cd so you can reference it later. Now hook that up to the two ends of the top wire and start with 0. (DO NOT TRANSMIT) Pick the worst frequency you have for noise, get a friend to sit by the rig with a phone, get your cell and go outside and move the pot through its range. At one point it will show a drop of several S units of noise without hurting the signal strength of the incoming signal. If you work more that one frequency such as 4 mc and 7 mc, run these tests on both frequencies and then split the difference between them. Mark it and read it with an ohm meter and purchase an antenna termination resistor of that ohm rating, and between 300 and 550 watts and install and enjoy.....You actually can tune out much of the noise that is blocking the signals.

---Larry NNN0TQV/NNN0AS4 TWO FL