

COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

Editor R L Dyson KDAYO 8943 S Overhill Cir De Soto Ks 66018

NO. 215

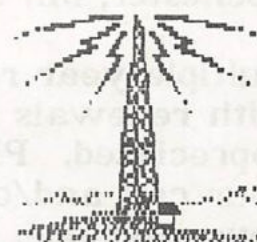
MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING

The March MARAC meeting was held on March 12, 1988 at the Holiday Inn East, St. Paul, Mn. President Don, WAOLKL, called the meeting to order at 9:08A. Also in attendance werw W0nnh, WB0KIN, W9LHG, WOKMH, WAORJJ, WB0UPU, NODRX, and NODXH.

The minutes of the February meeting were reviewed and presented for approval. W9LHG made a motion to accept the minutes as reported in the Roadrunner, seconded by W0NNH, passed.

John, W9LHG, presented the Treasurer's report. He reminded the group that the end of March is the end of the fiscal year. He added that all the input for the required reporting to the IRS should offer no problems. WAORJJ made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by WB0KIN, passed.

With the upcoming postal increase, there was considerable discussion concerning the need for a MARAC dues increase. John, W9LHG, volunteered to do a financial assessment using factors like projected newsletter costs, current



APRIL 1, 1988

dues scale, multiple year renewals, etc. The subject will be continued next meeting.

Bob, WOKMH, reproted that the slate of Directors to be voted on by the membership would appear in the Roadrunner.

Shell, NODRX, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bill, WB0UPU, passed.

The next MARAC meeting in the Headdquarters area will be on April 9th and May 7th, 1988 at 9:00 A at the Holiday Inn East, St. Paul, Mn.

Respectfully submitted, WAORJJ,
Secretary.



DUES EXPIRATION !!

If your mailing label indicates 8804 or 8805, it is time to renew. Dues with 1st class mailing are \$11/year. Dues with 3rd class mailing are \$8/year. Note, 3rd class mailing is available within the US only. Dues with mailing Air Mail to all continents other than NA is \$20/year. Please make your check or money order payable to MARAC

and mail to the Secretary, Vern Olson, WA0RJJ, 4024 NW 3rd St Rochester, Mn 55901.

Multiple year renewals and SASE's with renewals are also very much appreciated. PLEASE !!!..... put your call and/or MARAC number on your envelope, check or correspondence. Without either the call or MARAC number I end up with a lengthy records search.

MARAC INFORMATION PACKET

Get the word out to potential new members and interested County Hunters that a MARAC Information Packet is available. The Packet includes an overview of MARAC, a description of the Awards Program, and the Operating Guidelines. Send the request with a business-sized envelope with 39 cents postage to: MARAC, Box 64, Newport, Mn 55055.

PLANNED MOBILE TRIP

W5ILR, Ed, is planning the following mobile trip beginning Apr 27 in Texas. He will run the following counties, Runnels, Concho, Menard, Kimble, Kerr, Gillispie, Kendall and Bexar. On May 1,2, and 3 Bexar, Medina and all counties south of a line composed of Maverick, Zavala, Dimmit, La Salle, McMullen, Live Oak, Bee, San Patricio and Aransas. I can switch to 40/75 immediately upon request. If 20 is clobbered with many mobiles I may concentrate my efforts on 40 meters.

ELECTION NOTICE !

Attached to this Newsletter is a ballot for election of three Directors positions whose terms have expired as of July, 1988. All members are encouraged to vote for a Headquarters Director. The Southeast and South Central Directors are to be voted on ONLY by members with legal address



within the respective district.

Nominations have been received for and accepted by the following named members. A blank space is provided for any write-ins.

Headquarters Director Sheldon Mann, N0DRX; Southeast Director Bill Bell, KM4W; South Central Director Bob Kemp, WA4CHI and Buster Boatman, N0CKC.

District boundaries are as follows; Southeast-- Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi. South Central District--Missouri, Kansas, Colorado Arkansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Texas and Louisiana.

Please remember, all vote for a Headquarter District nominee and those members in the appropriate District ONLY vote for a nominee. Send all ballots back before June 30, 1988.

MARAC CONVENTIONS PLANNED



May 27-28, Portland Me, Host K7AYC, NE Mini, 603-547-2511, July 20-24 Indianapolis In, Host WD9GBH, MARAC National 317-674-2470, Aug 5-6, Marysville, Wa, Host N7TT Pacific Mini, 206-481-7206, Sept 30-Oct 1, Superior, Wi, Host N9BDM, NC Mini 715-392-3759, Nov 4-5, Manchester, Tn, Host KM4W, SE Mini, 615-728-7379, Jul 5-8, 1989, Abilene, Tx, Host W5ILR, MARAC National, 915-698-8849, Aug 4-5, 1989, Settle, Wa Area Host N7TT, Pacific Mini, 206-481-7206, Feb 24-25, 1990, Houston, Tx, Host KA5PVB, SC Mini, 713-579-7932, July, 1990, Eastern Pa, Host WA3TUC, MARAC National, 215-887-0560.

PLANN TO ATTEND AND SET THESE
DATES ASIDE FOR FUN AND FRIENDSHIP!

CW



by NFOX, Harry
Net 14.066.5

Jack, KC7YE/M reports he is frustrated in his unsuccessful attempts to attract CW attention from Washington state. In FEB he ran a few counties but could raise no one from Grays Harbor, Lewis and Thurston. In NOV he drove over 3,000 miles without ever once attracting CW attention and finally gave up. Two reasons. Trip not known, Too many ops with the "Let George do it" attitude in my opinion. Poor propagation may have been a problem but I'm sure someone must have heard his pleas. But a good point to advertise your trip in advance however short. However, more attention

needs to be given to those western states. Mobiles in WA, OR, UT, WY, etc., seem to have a hard time getting the proper recognition. Those of us who have been there know from where Jack speaks.

Small but lively Mini in Denton, Tx, in March. Still trying to attract mor /M to our cause. Their complaint? Caint attract attention, never can find the net, stations too fast for them, caint get the hang

Things to come April 4, WITEE really gets with it by running in MO, AR, TX, NM, UT, etc., etc. WOW, what a trip. Those of you who let your jobs interfere with your county hunting are gonna miss out on this one. Some state in their entirety. Again, Gene out to run all 3076 on CW only. Rapidly approaching that goal. Caint keep a good Navy Radioman down. ATTA BOY, GENE! April 15, NFOX, in northern MO. April 26, W3XE Maryland to Dayton Hamfest. Others will be in there for the deserving. Be there too. 73, Harry, NFOX.

AWARDS INFORMATION

WOOWY, AWARDS CHAIRMAN

I have been advised by one recipient that hius MARAC Special Plaque arrived in a damaged condition. I would appreciate it very much if anyone else that has received a damaged plaque would drop me a note and let me know. If this is more than just an isolated instance, we will have to change the manner and method of shipment but we can only know that if you let us know how they are being received.

The Awards committee, represented by Bob, WA4CHI, Harry, NFOX and Bill WOOWY met in a session at the Texas Mini and discussed several aspects of the awards program. Pending review of the full committee, some of the items reviewed will be published in the Roadrunner. It was also decided that the committee would meet again in conjunction with the National Convention in Indianapolis this summer. At this time we are actively seeking input from the membership at large for suggestions, ideas or changes that need to be discussed at that meeting. If you have something to be reviewed by the committee, I would suggest

that you write to one of the committee members and let them know your thoughts. At the present time they are: W3XE, Andy Anderson 14601 Claude Lane Silver Spring, MD 20904; WA4CHI Bob Kemp 140 Mt Massive Way Longmont, Co 80501

N4FSZ Skip Gee Rt 1 Box 297 Bassett, Va 24055; WA5DTK, Barry Brewer, 85-A East Poinciana Dr, Satellite Beach FL 32927; N5QQ Bob Robertson 911 La Loma Dr Medford OR 97504; WOOWY, Bill Nash 6604 Hounds Run So., Mobile AL 36608; WA0RJJ Vern Olson, 4024 NW 3rd St Rochester, MN 55429 NFOX, Harry Brundridge Star Rt, Box 60 Hermitage, MO 65668.

In order to publish data concerning Individual Awards, Mike Gray, K5OUK, has offered to collect the facts and put them together for future publication in the Handbook and in the Roadrunner. If you have an Individual Award available that can be obtained please forward the facts concerning the award along with a copy of the certificate to Mike for consolidation. His address is Mike Gray, K5OUK, P O Box 11755, Richmond, VA 23230.

As might be expected with something new, a number of questions have been asked about the FBCA that makes me believe I should answer some of the more common ones;

Q. Can I get the application book returned?

A. Absolutely. It will be returned as soon as possible.

Q. What are the minimum requirements to get the FBCA?

A. The minimum is 1500 Counties confirmed on any one of the five bands.

Q. Can I get it endorsed CW, YL, Mobile, etc?

A. Yes - each type of endorsement will be separately numbered.

Q. If I apply for All Counties on One band and 1500 on Another, will the 1500 be processed at the same time?

A. Yes. Your application will be processed in its entirety determined by the group and the sequence that it was drawn in. (Note: see Feb. N/L for details and application process.)

Q. I already have USACA All Counties endorsed for All one band, do I have to list all of the counties again for FBCA?

A. No - your USACA All Counties endorsement will qualify you for the FBCA application if you have received the

USACA All Counties endorsement from the CQ Awards Custodian.

Q. What form do I need to apply for the award?

A. Use the application form from the USACA Record book or use a copy of it.

Q. Does the \$10 basic fee cover all endorsements on the initial application or do I need the extra endorsement processing fee?

A. The basic fee covers all of the initial processing.

If you have other questions regarding the Five Band Counties Award, please let me know as soon as possible. I would like to have everyone that is interested get their application in prior to the May 1st drawing so that everyone has an opportunity to obtain one of the lower numbers.

Incidentally, if you are in the area and would like to be present at the time of the drawing, please drop me a note and let me know when you will be here. Maybe if there is interest, we could have a cook-out!

SILENT KEYS

A. EDWARD HOPPER - W2GT
1907-1988

A Edward Hopper became a Silent Key on February 25, 1988. Ed was USA-CA Director and Editor of the Awards Column in CQ from 1965 until 1983 and was largely responsible for building the USA-CA Program into the position of prominence it now occupies in the amateur radio community. Those of us who enjoyed the high privilege of working with Ed will long remember the generous way he shared his knowledge. Ed contributed much to the Amateur Radio Community and he will be sorely missed by his many friends.

With regret we must also report the passing of W9GBC, Bob Gosnell, R1612 on March 7, 1988.

SHORT FILLERS

Land agents have a lot on their minds.

Today's electric bills are revolting.

USACA HONOR ROLL LATEST MEMBERS

CQ magazine has announced the following additions to the USACA Honor Roll. Congratulations to each of them!

- #562 WB6FJU All 20M Mobile 02-20-88
- #563 KYOE All 20M SSB/Mobile 02-24-88
- #564 N6EBU All SSB 03-07-88
- #565 WA5INV All SSB 03-08-88



ADDRESS CHANGES, CORRECTIONS

- R1906 N5AWE 1732 NW 35th Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (Oklahoma) 73118
- R1779 and R2038 state is MI not MN.
- R1517 3629 Northwood Dr SE Warren, OH 44484
- R1528 AA4JN 914 Conjurers Dr (city/st ok)
- R1886 KF5AT add BLVD to address
- R1967 KE7NT 3310 Crestline Cr (city/st ok)
- R1272 WB8RJW 63331 Augusta St(city/st ok)
- R453 KB9XF is now NS9Y
- R114 K4BXU 64 Laurel Grove, Higganum, CT 06441 (Middlesex)
- R488 N5KGY 716 Cypress Starkville, MS 39759 (Ottobeha)
- R1673 KM80 3435 Fishinger Rde Hilliard, OH 43026 (Franklin)
- R1156 WA5DTK 85-A East Poinciana Dr Satellite Beach FL 32937 (Brevard)

NEW MEMBERS

- R2067 KD9MJ Carson Gaston 1445 East Division St Decatur, IL 62526(Macon)
- R2068 N5GFX Charles Stokes 8803 Sparkling Creek Dr Austin TX 78729(Williamson)
- R2069 AE9H Jack Becker 5932 N 32nd St Milwaukee WI 53209-4174(Milwaukee)
- R2070 VE3OEE Keith Laughlin 6 Bayley St P O Box 923 Forest, ONT NON 1J0
- R2071 N6OKX R W Dick Elkins 1000 S Lemon St Apt A Anaheim CA 92805

- R2072 W3DYA Norm Beavers 1616 Frederick St Cumberland, MD 21502 (Allegany)
- R2073 WD8AGC George Hooper 72560 M-43 Hwy South Haven, MI 49090 Van Buren)
- R2074 WD8MEV Shirley Hooper 72560 M-43 Hwy South Haven, MI 49090 Van Buren)
- R2075 KB2GW George Munns 14 Rosetree Ln Woodbury, NJ 08096 (Gloucester)
- R2076 KC2QI Harry Martin 6 Concord Road Randolph, NJ 07869 (Morris)
- R2077 KA1OCL John Wilson 66 Brigham Hill Rd. Grafton, MA 01519 (Worcester)
- R2078 K4CIH Tom Henderson 4901 15th Pl Tuscaloosa, AL 35404 (Tuscaloosa)
- R2079 WB8BMV Jay Brookover 1208 Wil-lowbrook Dr Cary, NC 27511 (Wake)

FOR SALE !

Kenwood TS-520S DG-5 digital display AC/DC power supply and extra set of finals \$475 or best offer.

Commodore 64 computer 1541 drive 1526 printer Magnavox green screen monitor Pakratt PK-64 with HFM-64 modem (includes packet, Morse, Baudot, ASCII and AMTOR modes) 2 hookup cables one for HF and one for VHF. \$550

Commodore VIC 20 computer with 8K expansion board Commodore cassette Kantronics Hamsoft (includes CW RTTY & ASCII) MFJ-1224 interface \$125.

All in like new condition, including all manuals. Contact Gary Nelson KBOYN 913-782-0567.

WANTED !

I am interested in obtaining an Apple II+ computer to replace an ailing one. I do not need any monitors, etc., just the computer and keyboard. If you have one you would like to get rid of, give me a call. Bob, KOAYO 913-585-3212.

DISCLAIMER

The following disclaimer is a perment part of the Roadrunner. "Opinions expressed in articles and letters are those of the author and may not reflecg those of MARAC.

COUNTIES NEEDED TO FINISH STATES

WA6CQW George 619-443-4392

AL Greene Lamar Lawrence AR Bradley
Cleveland Dallas IA Monroe Taylor
Vanburen Winneshiek KY Bracken
Breathitt Garrard Greenup Harlan
Kenton LA AVoyelles MD Caroline
Carroll St Marys SC Marion SD Stanley
WV McDowell Tyler Wyoming

MEMBERS SPEAK!

KOAYO--Thought you might like to see how much one of our DX members values his membership. This is a clip from the QSL card of IIEEW. Good show, Fulvio!



ITALY

WAZ 15 ITU 28
WW LOC. JN33AV



Imperla



IIEEW



VIRGILIAN DX GROUP - n° 076



WA9PQY--Carl On Monday March 7th, Ralph, WB4FFV/M near Seattle witnessed the immediate aftermath of an auto accident with unknown injuries. The Net was asked to Standby while WB6FJU, John, called the Washington State Police. Within minutes, help was on the scene and the Net resumed, thanks to the quick response of these two USACA Award holders.

(Editors note: Lets all remember that we (the amateur service) exist and will only continue to enjoy all of the spectrum space we have if we continue to be ready at all times to provide this type of help. It does

not have to be an accident, it might be handling emergency traffic to one of our own members regarding family or loved ones. Lets NEVER turn away someone who asks to pass traffic UNTIL we determine the nature of that traffic. Apparently, there was a recent incident of this on the net and to that non-member we have a very black eye, especially since the traffic involved an imminent death of a very close friend of one of our mobiling members.)

WOLRH--Tom In line with the new FBCA I will have all 5 bands available on all future mobile trips. If you would like to try a contact on any band, put your request in during the run. 73, Tom

ALTERNATE NET FREQUENCIES.

Occasionally, it is necessary to establish an alternate net frequency to accommodate a large number of mobiles or to eliminate the "backlog". Avoiding other operating nets and in-progress QSOs is not impossible, but sometimes made difficult by the eavesdropper. When one looks for an alternate frequency and comes back to the Net Control and announces "14328" as an alternate, you can bet that it will be busy when you return to it. I use both my fixed-station transmitter and my mobile transmitter when I am not mobiling. One, I keep on 14336, the other, I use to find the alternate frequency. I can listen to the eavesdropper touch-up his transmitter on the alternate I have named. I suggest an alternative method of naming the frequency. It isn't new, its just a practical method. The following diagram may be useful in understanding the system:

Ch	Ch	Ch	Ch	Ch	Ch	Ch	Ch	Ch
10	09	08	07	00	06	05	04	03
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	3	3	3	2	2	2
8	5	2	9	6	3	0	7	4

Tell the Net Control you are going to Channel 03, or "Channel 3". That means 14324, plus or minus 500hz, depending on QRM. We know that there are nets on 14332 and 14330, so those channels should be avoided for the purposes of living with our neighbors.

W5VDW-Sonny

* * *

20th MARAC NATIONAL CONVENTION

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

JULY 20-24, 1988

RAMADA INN-SOUTH

C O N V E N T I O N S C H E D U L E

Wednesday, July 20, 1988

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Registration

7 p.m. to 11 p.m.??

Hospitality Rooms

Thursday, July 21, 1988

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Registration

9:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Computer User's Meeting

1 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Conner Prairie Settlement/Pig Roast

?? a.m. to ?? p.m.

Hospitality Rooms

Friday, July 22, 1988

8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Registration

9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

CW County Hunter's Meeting

10:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Antenna Forum-Barry Boothe (WSUCW)

9:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Indianapolis Motor Speedway

and Indianapolis Zoo

Saturday, July 23, 1988

9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Shopping trip to Union Station

and Downtown Indianapolis

9:00 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Executive Meeting

1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

GENERAL MARAC MEETING

5:00 p.m.

Convention Photo

6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Social Hour

7:00 p.m.--

CONVENTION BANQUET

Sunday, July 24, 1988

10:00 a.m.--

Informal Breakfasts and Goodbye's

20TH
MARAC NATIONAL CONVENTION
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____ USACA #: _____ CALL _____
ADDRESS _____

****NOTE--Registration for person named above includes 1 photo and 1 name badge.
All other badges are \$3.50 each.**

REGISTRATION FOR PERSON NAMED ABOVE:

Before June 10 @16.00 \$ _____
After June 10 @20.00 \$ _____

Other family members needing badges: (at \$3.50 per badge)

SPOUSE _____ USACA #: _____ CALL _____

OTHERS _____ USACA #: _____ CALL _____

TOTAL Other Family Badges
at \$3.50 each \$ _____

TICKETS FOR MEALS/EVENTS:

Conner Prairie Farm Tour (18.50 each) # _____ @ 18.50 = \$ _____
(Includes Pig Roast)

500 Track & Museum and
Indianapolis Zoo Adult (15.00 each) # _____ @ 15.00 = \$ _____
12 & Under (12.00 each) # _____ @ 12.00 = \$ _____

Convention Banquet (20.00 each) # _____ @ 20.00 = \$ _____

Optional Photos:

USACA Holders (3.50 each) # _____ @ 3.50 = \$ _____
YL's Only (3.50 each) # _____ @ 3.50 = \$ _____
CW Operators (3.50 each) # _____ @ 3.50 = \$ _____

(DONATIONS)

Ham Prize Tickets (\$1.00 each/12 for \$10.00) # _____ = \$ _____
YL Prize Tickets (\$1.00 each/12 for \$10.00) # _____ = \$ _____

TOTALS \$ _____

**** Union Station/Downtown Shopping (Extra Charge) # Interested in Attending _____

Make All checks payable to:

1988 MARAC CONVENTION

Mail Registration Form and Check to: HERB MORGAN, WD9GBH
735 EAST 50TH STREET
MARION, IN 46953

HOTEL REGISTRATION CARDS SHOULD BE MAILED DIRECTLY TO THE RAMADA INN-SOUTH
BEFORE JULY 6, 1988 OR CALL YOUR RESERVATION (1/317-787-3344) AND MENTION THE
MARAC NATIONAL CONVENTION OR COUNTY HUNTERS!!

INFORMATION FOR AMATEUR OPERATORS

PROBLEM:

RECOMMENDED SOLUTIONS:

Harmonics and spurious emissions.

Install a low-pass filter in the antenna feed line, or in the coaxial link to the antenna tuner
or

Install a filter between the transmitter (exciter) and the input to the amplifier. A second filter should be installed at the amplifier's output.

Use of maximum power levels

Conduct tests by reducing your power to determine the effect that reduced power will have on the level of interference. If lower power operations reduce or eliminate the interference, you may wish to consider operating at the lower power whenever possible. This may help restore harmony to the neighborhood.

High gain or directional antenna

The effective radiated power (ERP) of high gain antennas operated at maximum power levels can create a "blanketing" effect. Consider using a non-directional antenna or reduced operating power.

Poor grounds

Ground transmitter to a metallic cold water pipe or a ground rod driven at least 8 feet into the ground. Ground lead should be at least #10 wire, copper ribbon or strap.

Local interference committees are available to help amateurs resolve their interference problems. For assistance in locating a committee in your area, contact the American Radio Relay League, Newington, Connecticut 06111, or the nearest FCC office listed on page 36.

REPRINTED FROM THE FCC INTERFERENCE
HANDBOOK YOU NEED A COPY PLUS PART 97

COUNTY HUNTER'S OPERATING PROCEDURES

1.0 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The procedures described here are recommended guidelines only and are not intended to define rules for Net operation. These guidelines cannot satisfy all situations all the time. Good judgment and common sense should always prevail. These procedures also assume full compliance with the FCC rules and regulations.

2.0 THE COUNTY HUNTING PROCESS

2.1 GOALS. Most serious County Hunters work toward the ultimate goal of making a confirmed contact with another Amateur in each of the approximately 3,075 counties in the 50 states in the United States. The basic award is issued by the CQ Magazine at several achievement levels. MARAC also issues a number of related awards.

3.0 CW NET OPERATING PROCEDURES

3.1 GENERAL. The procedures on the CW Net are very similar to those on the SSB Net. For members of MARAC, they will find these in the "COUNTY HUNTERS HANDBOOK." For non-members, they can get this literature from The B & B Shop; P. O. Box 850652; Mobile, AL 36685-0652. Just send a SASE and ask for the free Information Packet. Therefore, this section will deal primarily with the differences. The typical operating speed is about 20 wpm, but all stations are glad to slow down as needed. Also, the NCS should not transmit at speeds much above 20 wpm for obvious reasons. It is suggested that the word "NET" be used as many times as possible; i.e., "THE NET HAS JUST RUN K5XYZ/M IN JONES, TX." This will let outsiders know we are running a NET and not just Hams running mobiles. EMPHASIZE NET AT ALL TIMES.

3.2 FREQUENCIES AND TIMES. The CW Net meets at 14.066.5 Khz. It can be recognized by its use of the "CHN" (County Hunter's Net) signature. 7.035 Khz is used as a calling frequency for stations that cannot make contact on 20 meters. The Net is primarily a weekend Net. It always meets for an hour or two beginning at about 1400Z on Saturdays. That is when mobile trips, etc, are announced and it is a good time to be on hand. The Net will stay open during the day on Saturday and Sunday, if there is mobile activity. Also, it is occasionally open during the week for pre-announced mobile trips around 1300Z to 1400Z.

(continued next month)

The County Line Road Runner



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THE COUNTY LINE ROAD RUNNER

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STILLWATER MN 55082

A ROAD RUNNER IS A
VERY FAST BIRD!!