

**Smoky Mountain Amateur Radio Club
Awards Program**

**Smoky Mountain Amateur Radio Club
Maryville, Alcoa, & Blount County, Tennessee**

Introduction

The 2009/2010 **Smoky Mountain Amateur Radio Club Awards Program** continues the tradition of our previous officers who encouraged us to be active on the air. This program offers numerous awards that everyone has a chance to win.

Several of us are quite active on the bands, but some are not as active as they used to be; others are not as active as they would like to be; and some are barely active, if at all, for various reasons. This program is an incentive for members to be consistently active, or to get active again, or to upgrade their license, or to start working DX, or any number of things.

Local awards will encourage our members to get on the air, and that's always a good thing, from keeping our spectrum used to refining our operating skills to mentoring new hams.

Local awards also provide a new level of club involvement. Rather than just showing up each month for the fellowship and the program, each member can now be involved in something for the club at times other than meetings.

Local awards provide a special level of recognition. It's nice to have a WAS certificate on the wall of the shack, and granted, most of us strive for such goals simply for personal satisfaction, but there is something special in having earned the respect of your peers.

Local awards also help us grow club involvement and club pride, not to mention providing us with a reputation as a club on the move that is full of excited, active operators.

We also get to have our annual **Smoky Mountain Amateur Radio Club Awards Banquet** at our annual Christmas meeting and dinner where we will make the presentation of awards in the presence of your families and your peers.

The program starts on November 1st of each year, and runs through the following October 31. Final entry forms and logs, when required, must be turned in by October 31st.

Details of the program are on the following pages. The program is in purely recognition awards, and much of it is oriented toward club activity and service. ***The driving element of the entire program is to encourage club participation and support, and consistent, yearlong, on-air activity.***

Listening is good, but we have a license to transmit! So, throw the switch, key the mike, squeeze the paddles, or type on the keyboard, and let's let the world know we're here!

Awards Divisions

To make our awards distinctive, as well as representative of the *Smoky Mountain* Amateur Radio Club, we have a unique naming system in place. The program itself, of course, is the **Smoky Mountain Amateur Radio Club Awards Program**. Within the program, there are four divisions – **Appalachian** , **Unaka** , **Foothills** , and **Smoky Mountain Challenge**.

The **Appalachian Division**, representing the vast, unbroken mountain chain that stretches more than two-thirds of the way through the country. This division contains two service awards to recognize members who have touched the lives of other hams in significant ways and who stand as bulwarks of our hobby. Symbolically, just as the mighty Appalachians stand as silent, majestic sentries over our communities, these people seem to have always been there, encouraging, helping, and inspiring others.

The **Unaka Division**, representing the smaller subset of mountains unique to eastern Tennessee. This division contains awards to recognize outstanding achievement in the area of on-the-air operating, and it is essentially the HF and 6 meter division. Symbolically, just as the Unakas are part of the greater Appalachian range, these people are individual voices that help make up the worldwide hobby of amateur radio. All Unaka Division awards **can have multiple winners**.

The **Foothills Division**, representing the rolling hills we call home. This division contains awards to recognize participation and support of our club and local ham radio activity. Symbolically, just as the foothills of the Smokies are present in all our lives right here at home, these people are dedicated to the development and furtherance of amateur radio in our own backyard. All Foothills Division awards **can have multiple winners**.

The **Smoky Mountain Challenge** is both a division of its own and can have multiple winners. Read more about it below in the detail section.

Within both the **Unaka** and **Foothills divisions**, categories and awards have been named to reflect something about our region, making them just a bit special. We could have been dull and uninteresting and award things like “First Place, QRP CW DX.” If you win that award, though, wouldn’t you really rather be known as the “Cades Cove Award Winner?”

Everyone has a chance, even in the **Unaka division**. The program is for everyone to have a chance to earn something and to get more of our members on the air consistently throughout the year. If you want to win an award in the **Unaka Division** , be consistent and persistent. Plenty of contacts, both domestic and DX, are made every day on 100 watts or less with a simple vertical or wire antenna.

In the **Foothills Division**, there are even opportunities for Technicians restricted to VHF/UHF. You can win an award with just an HT...but you have to turn it on and talk. In fact, the Foothills Division is the most important division of the program, and many of the awards are for loyalty or service to the club. The true payoff in this division is that not only are awards available, but members having a chance to learn and grow from it and the club will benefit overall from participation.

The **Smoky Mountain Challenge Division** is perhaps the most exciting division. It could also prove to be the toughest award of all to win, *depending entirely* upon how many of us are willing to get on the air and stay there consistently.

Please read the rules carefully. If you have any questions at any time, or need clarification, please feel free to ask!

APPALACHIAN DIVISION

The Raven Award

To recognize a SMARC member who has made significant and lasting contributions to the furtherance and improvement of amateur radio in general.

--Named in honor of Sam Houston, known as the Raven to his Cherokee brothers, and who served this region, this state, and this nation as a teacher and leader. He touched the lives of others and forged the future.

The recipient will be chosen from nominations made by our members, and his or her contributions do not necessarily have to be made within the award year. The Raven Award may or may not be presented each year. If no one is nominated, no one will receive the award. So, it is up to the membership to turn in nominations.

The recipient should be someone who...

1. Personifies the Amateur's Code;
2. Exhibits enthusiasm for amateur radio;
3. Encourages and helps other hams;
4. Demonstrates exemplary operating practice;
5. Fosters and develops fellowship and camaraderie among hams.

This is the Cadillac award of our program. It will have the largest plaque, so please nominate only the most outstanding and deserving individuals.

Deadline for Nominations: OCTOBER 31, Each Year

The Crockett Award

To recognize a SMARC member who has made significant and lasting contributions to this club.

--Named in honor of Davy Crockett, the pioneer, statesman, and soldier who was a friend to the common man and who sacrificed himself so that others might live free. Today, he is still the best symbol we have of what it means to be a Tennessean.

The recipient will be chosen from nominations made by the membership. Like the Raven Award, this one may or may not be presented each year, depending upon nominations. The recipient will also share some characteristics in common with the winner of the Raven Award. The recipient's contributions do not necessarily have to be made within the award year.

The recipient should be someone who...

1. Personifies the Amateur's Code;
2. Exhibits enthusiasm for the Smoky Mountain Amateur Radio Club;
3. Is, or has been in the past, heavily involved in club activities;
4. Volunteers for duty;
5. Stands as a shining example of our club to others, both within the amateur radio community and without.

This will be the second largest plaque of our program.

Deadline for Nominations: OCTOBER 31, Each Year

UNAKA DIVISION

Rules and Restrictions

1. ENTRY

A list with calls will be in writing (can be via E-mail) to the SMARC awards manager and the honor system will be applied with no QSL's required.

2. POINTS AND MULTIPLIERS

Each QSO counts as one point. Duplicate contacts do not count.

3. POWER

Legal power output in the Cades Cove Award, Mount LeConte Award, Newfound Gap Award and Roaring Fork Award; 10 watts or less maximum for The Deep Creek Award and The Little River Award.

4. INDIVIDUAL CONTACTS

Contacts for this division MAY be included in entry logs for other contests, such as CQWW, ARRL Sweepstakes, etc. Working contests gets people active, and if you can get double credit for QSO's, all the better.

5. MONTHLY PERCENTAGE

Each member participating in this division should try to be consistently active throughout the year. Try, to the best of your ability, to not let any one or two months' worth of activity make up the bulk of your activity. A general guideline would be to not let any one month make up more than 40% of your total. THIS IS A GUIDELINE, BUT NOT A RULE.

6. AWARDING OF AWARDS

None of the following awards will be endorsable but may be awarded year after year to any who qualify yearly. There is no charge for the awards and any member of SMARC and any Licensed Amateur radio Operator are eligible. Awards will be given to all that qualifies.

UNAKA DIVISION AWARDS

HF CADES COVE AWARD

For those members of SMARC logging 50 DXCC stations or more on any and all bands 160 through 6 meters, any mode, within legal power limits from November 1st of the previous year until the next October 31.

HF MOUNT LeCONTE AWARD

For those members of SMARC logging 50 or more Amateur Stations (within 50 states) on any and all bands 160 through 6 meters, any mode, within legal power limits from November 1st of the previous year until the next October 31.

HF QRP DEEP CREEK AWARD

For those members of SMARC logging 25 DXCC stations or more on any and all bands 160 though 6 meters, any mode with 10 watts or less from November 1st of the previous year until the next October 31.

HF QRP LITTLE RIVER AWARD

For those members of SMARC logging 25 or more Amateur Stations (within 50 states) on any and all bands 160 though 6 meters, any mode with 10 watts or less from November 1st of the previous year until the next October 31.

HF NEWFOUND GAP AWARD

For those members of SMARC logging 50 stations or more on any and all bands 160 through 6 meters, CW mode within legal power limits from November 1st of the previous year until the next October 31.

HF ROARING FORK AWARD

For those members of SMARC logging 50 stations or more on any and all bands 160 though 6 meters, using digital modes other than CW, (PSK31, PSK63, MFSK, RTTY, etc) within legal power limits from November 1st of the previous year until the next October 31.

RULES FOR THE ABOVE CATEGORIES IN THE UNAKA DIVISION AWARDS:

Not more than one contact per station, per band for this division, No Dupes.

FOOTHILLS DIVISION

The Mountain Laurel Award:

CERTIFICATE to recognize and reward consistent meeting attendance. Minimum: 10. No entry form required; we will simply check the roster after the October meeting.

The Dogwood Award:

CERTIFICATE to recognize and reward consistent participation in the SMARC weekly VHF net. Minimum: 40. No entry form required; we will simply check the logs after the last net in October..

The Azalea Award:

CERTIFICATE to recognize and reward consistent participation in local area VHF/UHF nets and/or HF nets other than the weekly SMARC net. Minimum: 75. **Entry form and log required.**

The Mimosa Award:

CERTIFICATE to recognize and reward participation in the SMARC weekly VHF net as Net Control five times during the award period.

The Rhododendron Award:

CERTIFICATE to recognize and reward consistent use of the W4OLB repeater. 50 individual contacts, using the club repeater, does not include contacts on the weekly SMARC Net. **Entry form and log required.**

The Trillium Award:

CERTIFICATE to recognize and reward consistent participation in club activities. **EARN 150 POINTS**

Points Scale:

- Club Meetings = 5 pts. per meeting
- Field Day: Help set up or take down = 10 pts.; Operating = 5 pts./hr. – 20 pt. limit.
- Weekly SMARC nets: 5 pts. per net.
- Special Events such as demonstrations, etc. = 5 pts. per day with minimum of 2 hrs. of participation.

Entry form and documentation sheet required.

The Tulip Poplar Award:

CERTIFICATE to recognize and reward public service activity.

EARN 200 POINTS

Points Scale:

CPR Certification = 20 pts.

First Aid Certification = 20 pts.

SKYWARN Training Class = 20 pts.

EMCOMM Certification = 10 pts. per level, maximum of 30 pts.

ARES Membership = 20 pts.

ARES Meeting Attendance = 10 pts. per meeting.

SET Participation (either locally or statewide) = 20 pts.

SKYWARN Net Participation (real weather alerts) = 20 pts. per net (check in and be available)*

Actual Emergency Net Participation (real disaster situations) = 20 pts. per net (check in and be available)*

Emergency Training Net Participation (i.e.: METERS, ARES, etc.) = 5 pts. per net; 10 pts. if NCS.*

NTS Traffic or Traffic Training Net Participation = 5 pts. per net; 10 pts. if NCS.*

Public Service Activity Participation (i.e.: bike-a-thons, etc.) = 10 pts. per activity.

Entry form and documentation sheet required. *Note: There is nothing that says the nets have to be VHF/UHF only as there are also nets on HF.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE DIVISION

Smoky Mountain Challenge Award, HF:

CERTIFICATE awarded to any SMARC member who works 20 members of the Smoky Mountain Radio Club on 160 through 6 meters. Any mode. Mixed mode OK. Unlimited power.

Numerous winners are possible. Entry form and log required.

Smoky Mountain Challenge Award, VHF/UHF:

CERTIFICATE awarded to any SMARC member who works 20 members of the Smoky Mountain Amateur Radio Club on 2 meters and up. Regular, weekly nets do not count. Any mode. Mixed mode OK.

Numerous winners are possible. Entry form and log required.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE SUPREME:

PLAQUE awarded to anyone who, at any time, accomplishes the following:

- Earns 6 of 7 Foothills Division Awards
- Wins three awards in the Unaka Division.
- Earns the Smoky Mountain Challenge Certificate for *both* HF and VHF/UHF.

This could easily take several years to earn.