



THE COUNTY LINE

ROADRUNNER

Published Monthly by the Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club, Inc.



Volume XXXIV

June 2004

Number 6

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Bill K2NJ

ENUF Already



You would think after all these years an election would just come and go – a few yawns and its all over... but no... This is worse than listening to CNN about who had the better military career... someone who never showed up, but lands nicely on a aircraft carrier.. or someone who went to nam... and got purple hearts that are not exactly what they seem or something like that or whatever... I am sick of this election also, and it still has months to go... Well the MARAC election is about the same...

Last month we sent out ballots – and forgot to list the correct Directors who are running.

We held up the RR last month to make all good because the C&BL call for XX days between announcement of elections and to call for candidates... then find out that there is no deadline that we must abide by for counting the votes, so we could have put the wrong ballot in this months RR... but no, we jump the gun and put it last month so we can fix it this month... follow? Hope not... J

So let me try one more time to explain what to do with your ballots...

- 1- Read them. If you wish to vote – you may either take the ballot that came with your printed RR and mark it up and mail it in... or print a copy of your E-RR and mail it in... or copy your printed copy and mail it in.. get the hint... mail it in...
- 2- You must put YOUR CALL on the return part of the envelope to verify you are a member of MARAC and your vote should be counted. OH, here we go again... then you would know who I was and who I voted for... Well, I really don't care who votes for who... We just want to make sure you're a valid voter... period. If your call is not in the return part – your envelope will be tossed. Period... If you are afraid to vote...then maybe you should move to Iraq... or tell us how to verify good ballots from bad ballots without a key of some sort.
- 3- Do not put your call or anything else on the ballot and put it in your envelope... Once we check off you voted... we open the ballots and put them all in a pile and discard the envelopes... so we now don't know who did what... yea, I know there are non-believers out there... well, keep away from my kids near Christmas and don't spoil my fun...
- 4- Mail it in... and wait. Note, we said MAIL em... no Electronic voting – this will be discussed at the convention... in Texas (did I say this once before). UR welcome Joyce...

That's all there is to it... I think its simple, but then so many think I am also simple..

If you have any questions – please email me...or phone me, I am home all day long looking to find something to do...

Last month in our haste to get it all right, we blew it again... Simply put... We put the wrong directors up for vote.. and left Bob KC6AWX off the ballot... no biggie, since he is un-opposed – but he had his feelings hurt... sorry amigo...

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(President Continued from page 1)

This should all be automatic by now, but for some reason – every election the Sh** hits the fan and we all act like it is the first time we are trying this... I don't understand... I cant blame anyone, but everyone... Everyone is afraid of making a mistake and having someone bitch about it. I found the same mentality when I was working in industry. Nobody wanted to make a decision because they may make a mistake... Well, if that happens, then nothing happens. I made decisions... made mistakes and apologized for them – but then it was over and we were off doing other things... while on the other hand committee's were being formed to discuss how to do this and that... and then they all died and wondered why they could not get funding the next year... This was the dawn of the "Not my fault" mentality... Nobody wants to admit it was their fault for putting steaming hot coffee between her knees and driving... hell, lets sue Mickey Dee for not putting a hot label on it...

So here we are again.. I blew it... We blew it... so now you have to read this same crap again this month... sorry bout that... So take this ballot... and mark your vote for who you want to be VP for the next two years and mail it to Chuck... done and off we go to the next phase of whatever comes our way...

BT— (for Non CW ops, that is Break Thought, (change idea, paragraph etc.)

Open letter to the Clown who tossed N4CD off the Chat Room just prior to the meeting last week... You have been identified... you are new to the club, and to county hunting – and yes, you even said that you did not know there was a meeting (even though I said it would start in ten min). This is all water over the bridge. You thought it was funny, not political – OK, but there are Neigh Sayers out there looking for the conspiracy... sure there are!

Talking to John (W5UGD) we set up a new chatroom to be used in meetings... there will only be 4 super user's on it... two officers (Me, cuz I said so)... Jim KZ2P cuz he knows his stuff... KC6AWX – to make him stop crying about leaving him off the ballot (not)... and Davve KE3VV cuz he is just so damn cute... We will have the only say who stays and who gets tossed... no more kidding around, it wont happen again.

Everyone is invited to come to the meetings – Jim wrote up a how-to – I paste below. If you follow his instructions you should have no problem getting on the new site...

For those of them who have downloaded the full mIRC protocols all they have to do to automatically connect to the MARAC Board Room is after they have mIRC open and running:

- 1) Click on the tool icon (hammer) at the top left of the screen.
- 2) Under Connect, click on Options
- 3) In the Options folder, click on Perform
- 4) In the large white box in the middle of the screen, type /join #MARACBOARD
- 5) Click ok, ok
- 6) Close down the mIRC program and reboot it.

They will automatically add this chat room to any others that they have selected.

Now for those folks who don't have or want the mIRC software just type in the following URL (I would suggest that once it is up that they bookmark it) and type in their nickname and log in: [http://](http://www.superhosts.net/maracboard.html)

www.superhosts.net/maracboard.html

One other suggestion, is that both procedures be placed on the MARAC home page, both web sites and the Road Runner.

(President Continued on page 3)

(President Continued from page 2)

Many thanks to John (W5UGD) for his help in setting up the new room and Bill, Bob and Dave for helping configure it.

73 Jim KZ2P

BT—

I want to go on record to say what an amazing improvement I have seen on a Certain WG6 station on the CW net. Months and Months ago he would not go near 056.5 because he was such a terrible CW OP... he would go to 113 and run stuff, but then you had to know where and who he was because of his QLF (now try your left foot) fist. I was on this morning – Dayton crew is running home and this unknown WG6 station was in there with the rest of us working stuff... Good going (lets give him a factitious name of ... err... Ray?, yea that fits)... Man if you can come from sounding like Quasimodo to a decent op in this time... there may be hope for other side band ops... well, maybe.

BT...

I am still getting cards and Emails expressing your condolences on the passing of my Mother. Thank you once again, but like I have stated in the past – this was no surprise to me or my brothers and sister. She has been very ill for many years – actually she was given weeks/months to live about 15 years ago. She outlasted my dad and was doing great until about six months ago. Her heart started to act up again, her diabetes went way bad and she had to shoot up several times a day – and her kidneys totally failed. She fought going on dialysis to the end. Then one morning she woke with a bad cough and coughed up blood... tests showed.. yep, Lung Cancer – and the next weekend she had a stroke. She was one hard bird to kill – I have to say. Finally in the end it was her kidneys that took her silently.

Thank you again for all the cards / Emails and calls.

BT..

I have the Motor Home being serviced to head to Texas in another few weeks... ok, six of em... I figure with gas at \$2 a gallon, it is going to cost us 25cents a mile.. ouch, but with my medical problems it is worth it... Besides that, on Saturday night when we were at mom's place Gail and I slept on the floor... NEVER AGAIN... I am too damn old for that.. The weekend before that I was in Tioga, Co PA (no – never heard Elwood) for a friends graduation from College and slept in a Best Western... NEVER AGAIN... I swear there was a negative bow in the bed, with my head and feet lower than my middle (and quite a middle it is!)... So, we pay at the pump and sleep in a bed I know, eat in a kitchen we know... and am never more than 20 feet away from the potty... hihi

I hope to see a lot of you there, meet new friends and break bread with old friends. There are going to be lots of prizes and activities to keep all busy... Since my son is now driving he wants me to allow him to win one of the radio's... Same thing that Jim VE9DH said to me last year... and someone the year before... Well folks, the one I won last year was MY first... the other two Gail won... so talk to her..

From what I hear Joyce has spent a lot of sweat and tears getting everything all nice – I know her, and she does not do things half way.. So I am looking forward to a relaxing convention with no turmoil...

73' Hope to see ya there, if not.. work you from many new ones
Bill Inkrote, K2NJ MARAC President

**Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club
Treasurer's Report
May 31, 2004**

Funds Balance	4/30/04		\$28,744.79
Income:			
Awards		\$ 724.00	
Dues		518.00	
Interest		<u>5.49</u>	
			\$1,247.49
Expenses:			
Gene Olig – expenses		\$ 317.86	
Norm Ellison - expenses		622.45	
Stafford Engraving - awards		39.00	
Print-Right, Inc – newsletter		<u>546.25</u>	
			<u>1,525.56</u>
			<u>(278.07)</u>
Account Balances			\$28,466.72
Money Market Account		\$26,814.25	
Checking Account		<u>1,652.47</u>	
			\$28,446.72

Note:

The following monies are not included in the above:

Awards Chairman's Funds	\$1,200.00
2004 Convention Chairman's Funds	\$2,500.00

**DEADLINE FOR
THE JULY ISSUE
IS
JUNE 25th.**

**MARAC Board Meeting
Schedule for 2004
July Saturday Morning
at the Convention.**

MINUTES

MARAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND MEMBER MEETING

Date: May 12, 2004

The Meeting of the MARAC Board of Directors was called to order at 0800 PM EST (0100Z) by Bill (K2NJ).

The Officers present were:

President	Bill Inkrote – K2NJ
Vice President	Bob Voss – N4CD
Secretary	Norm Ellison — W2LSH
Treasurer	Jim Grandinetti – KZ2P
North Central Director	John Robson – WB9STT
Southeast Director	David Splitt – KE3VV
Pacific Director	Robert t. Devine – KC6AWX

The Members present were: Numerous members on the chat room.

Upon a motion by Norm (W2LSH) and seconded by Bob (KC6AWX) the minutes of the April 14, 2004 meeting were approved. Roll call indicated 5 in favor, none opposed.

Upon a motion by Norm (W2LSH) and seconded by Bob (KC6AWX) the Treasurer's report of April 30, 2004 was accepted. Roll call indicated 4 in favor, 1 abstention and none opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

A: Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

A: Nothing at this time.

OPEN MEETING

Nothing at this time.

With no further Business to come before the Board, Dave (KE3VV) moved that we adjourn. Seconded by Bill (K2NJ) the motion Carried, 5 in favor, none opposed.

We adjourned at 8:03 EDT.

Respectfully Submitted,
Norm Ellison W2LSH
Secretary, MARAC

2004 NORTH CAROLINA QSO PARTY REPORT
(Semi-Official)
By Ron Bailey, AA4S/m

I may, finally, be getting the hang of this QSO Party “thang”, but I don’t know if I’ll ever do it again trying to drive and operate at the same time. I was fortunate to have Bill Fisher (W4GRW) with his driver, Phil Martin (K4ATM), in a vehicle running ahead of me after dark to keep me on the right route. Don’t know how many of you know what route 221 is like through Avery, Caldwell, and Watauga Counties (Blue Ridge Parkway was closed due to recent snows.), but it was nice to know I wasn’t alone; I also received several comments of “Drive safe, etc.” from the other ops.

Bill was operating as NC4CQ/m putting out the same counties on SSB as I was doing mostly on CW. Hope we satisfied a lot of needs. I enjoyed giving KC3X his Last NC County on CW (Mitchell). Things like that make the effort worthwhile. Thanks to all the participants for their amazing support through the whole 10 hours, especially to AD1C for numerous packet spots and W0GXQ for his 17 QSOs. Managed to give KN4Y 9 of his 67 QSOs as well.

This year I was fortunate enough to come away with the high score in the “In-State, Mobile” category with 150,000 points vs. 95,000 last year. I managed 680 QSOs during the 10-hour period (546 on CW, 134 on SSB). The 109 hour in McDowell County was a real rush! Also many thanks to all the folks who gave me QSOs on the 14.336 net. Those QSOs accounted for 26 multipliers (10 of which I would not have gotten otherwise)! Another superb effort (110,000 points) was turned in by Jeff (NY4N) who comes all the way from Dickson, Tennessee to put out our counties.

Equipment consisted of two ICOM IC-706MKIIGs. One was connected through an Alpha-Delta antenna switch to Hamsticks, one for 20m (SSB and CW) and one for 40m CW. The other was used on 40m SSB (another Hamstick) and 10m SSB using a Lakeview mag-mount on the vehicle roof. Oh yes, I also was using a Kenwood 221A to communicate with W4GRW on 2m FM. (Guess that puts me in the SO3R/m category, hi!) After 20m closed down I switched the 20m Hamstick out for an 80m Hamstick. These were mounted on the roof of a 1993 Chevy S-10 Blazer. The 40m ones were mounted on license plate mounts (front and back).

I’d like to report that I didn’t get lost this year, but panic set in when I saw a sign saying welcome to Tennessee! My map didn’t show the fact that route 26 had been completed that far north. I know Bill and Phil wondered what had happened to me for a spell and why I spent so much time in Madison County. Fortunately, I had given them my planned route and found them waiting for me on 226 near the Mitchell/McDowell line!

Bill is already talking about next year. Well, let me say this, “If I do it next year, I’ll be in a recliner in the back of a van with someone else doing the driving!” Very 73.

Olde Tyme Radio Quiz” Written by: Ross Game Produced by: Alan Young, K6KLL

1. The Host of “Duffy’s” Tavern was: 2. A famed stage actress was Host of NBC’s weekly “Big Show” variety program and won acclaim for her appearance on the Nov 16, 1950 “Screen Director’s Playhouse” Radio adaptation of “Lifeboat.” Her name? 3. A . “My Time Is Your Time” was the theme song for: Arthur Murray ... Roy Orbison ... “Elgin Watch Revue” ... Rudy Vallee ... Roy Rogers ... Ignance Paderewski B. “Thanks For The Memory” was the theme song for: Bob Crosby .. Bob Crane .. Bob Hope .. Bob Smith .. Bob Burns ..Bob Preston 4. In 1950 the daughter of a U.S. President made her only radio appearance soon after making her debut in New York City as a concert vocalist. Her name? 5. The real names of three well known Radio stars were Amos Jacobs, Asa Yoelson and Eunice Quedens. Can you guess their adopted show business names? 6. Ray Scherer was best known to Radio listeners as: A. A quiz show host. B. Mutual Network Sportscaster. C. Long time NBC News White House correspondent. D. Musical Director for “the Kraft Music Hall.” 7. Each of the following was featured each week in commercials on popular radio shows. How many can you identify? A. “Don’t Despair ... Use your head, save your hair.” B. “L-S-M-F-T” C. “The Beer that made Milwaukee famous.” D. “The Breakfast of Champions.” E. “The Pause That Refreshes.”

(Answers on page 8)

The County Hunters' Forum at Dayton Hamvention 2004

It was an honor this year to be a part of the presentation team of the County Hunters' Forum at the 2004 Dayton Hamvention. Meeting all the folks I met last year was great and meeting all the new ones I've heard on the air but never had the honor to meet face to face was "neato".

Randy, AA8R's trivia quiz gave us all a laugh and was great and the certificates weren't pieces of crap—I considered mine an honor to have acquired. As usual, Bob, N4CD, gave a presentation on the current downside of the sun cycle we are in as well as the crappy propagation conditions and how we can prepare for the rest of it until it starts moving up.

Working with Fran, W9XYL, on the YL perspective of county hunting was great. Fran gave us a little rundown on her recent trip to Florida with K9IA, KD9ZP, and K9FDL. She had us in stitches with pieces of humor she interspersed here and there.

And then it was BigMouth's turn. For most of you who don't know who that is, that's me, Lori, K8XTQ—I used to be KC8HWV, but just recently changed my call so it would be similar to my Oms which is KE8TQ and also have the X for bingo. I told how I got into ham radio and then how I progressed into county hunting. Of course I had to add how I got into being assisting as net control and moving mobiles and helping when the net was in open session and tries to put a little humor in that.

All in all I think Fran and I did a good job on telling about Yls getting involved in county hunting and how we're doing and where we want to go from here. We must have done okay as everyone gave us a great "clapping of hands" and great laughs when we made jokes and what not.

Next year I hope to see more of you at the Forum and hopefully I will have my USA CA number by then. I only have 43 more to go. I have attached a couple of pictures of myself and Fran that my OM took. Wish we could have taken more.

We all had a great time and look forward to next year and seeing all of you again and those of you who couldn't make it this year or last year.

Catch you on the net. Hey, may catch you on CW too, bought a Bencher for at home and a Bugcatcher for mobile so I'm going to try that mode too. As always, happy hamming, have fun, and I hope you get those counties you need. CU on the net or CW. 73 es 88—33 to the Yls De Lori, K8XTQ



June Birthdays

K8OHC June 2	KJ4EJ June 3
K5NRA June 4	N9GN June 4
K1MIJ June 5	AA9RE June 5
K0AYO June 5	VK3MW June 9
KC4UG June 12	W5LXG June 15
KK6BB June 16	W6TMD June 17
W6OUL June 17	W5RIT June 20
N4EED June 20	N8ACL June 22
KE7GI June 23	W2LSH June 29
KD9ZP June 29	WD5JGS June 30

If your birthday is not in the database at:
www.marac.org/database

Send it to:
kd9zp@marac.org

New members

Please Welcome Our New Members And Add Them To Your Database.

Marac # Call Name Address Cnty E Mail

R-3126 W0MU Mike Fatchett P.O. Box 535 Reed Point, MT 59069 Stillwater w0mu@w0mu.com

R-3127 N2OO Robert W Schenck PO Box 345 Tuckerton, NJ 08087 Ocean n2oo@arrl.net

R-3128 K5AAR Donald G Dorn RR 2 Box 1843 Checotah, OK 74426-9650 McIntosh ddorn@cwis.net

R-3129 KG4UPA Deborah L Hoyt 125 Wyatt Oaks Court Easley, SC 29642-8368 Anderson bboop@amicon.net

R-3130 N0KV Barry L Mitchell 12200 Boothill Drive Parker, CO 80138 Douglas n0kv@arrl.net

**MARAC
Is Sadden To Report
The Passing of
William (Bill) Carpenter**

K7TED

5021 South Capheart

Kearns Ut, 04118

May 16, 2004

USA-CA # 1001 5/22/2000

2nd Time #300 4/8/2002

BINGO #220 4/25/2002

**MARAC
Is Sadden To Report
The Passing of
Rev. Terrence E. Koch, S.J.
“Father Terry”**

K6HZI

April 29, 2004

USA - CA # 471 4/2/1984

2nd Time# 59 11/28/1987

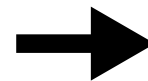
3rd Time #60 6/21/1993

4th Time #79 5/12/2000

BINGO #117 10/7/1996

1. Archie 2. Tullalah Bankhead 3. A. Rudy Valley B. Bob Hope 4. Margaret Truman, Daughter of President Harry S. Truman. 5. Jacobs: Danny Thomas ... Yoelson: Al Jolson ... Quedens: Eve Arden 6. NBC White House Correspondent. 7. A. Fitch Shampoo (“The Fitch Bandwagon”). B. Lucky Strike Cigarettes (“Your Hit Parade” and “The Jack Benny Show”). Lucky Strike Means Fine Tobacco. C. Pabst Beer (“Blue Ribbon Town” and “You Bet Your Life”). D. Wheaties (“Jack Armstrong, The All American Boy”). E. Coca Cola (“The Spike Jones Show”)

MARAC BALLOT



MARAC Election Ballot 2004

Office of President K2NJ Bill Inkrote – Unopposed

Office of Vice President - Circle one from this list:

N4CD Bob Voss

W5UGD John Hoyt

WA9DLB Tony Mazzocco

Office of Treasurer KZ2P Jim Grandinetti – Unopposed

Office of Secretary W2LSH Norm Ellison – Unopposed

Northeastern Director AE3Z Don Kimble – Unopposed

Western Director KC6AWX Bob Devine - Unopposed

SSB CHOY KD9ZP Gene Olig - Unopposed

CW CHOY W0GXQ Jerold Mertz - Unopposed

As you can see, the only contested election this year is for the Vice Presidential slot.

For your vote to count, you **MUST** put your call **on the return address spot on the envelope**. Once your verified as an active MARAC member, the envelope will be opened and the contents put in a pile – the envelope will then be discarded. If you do not print your call sign legibly in the return address portion of the outer envelope, your vote will not count. No Exceptions.

Your ballot must be mailed to:

Chuck Theisen, K9IA
N5563 County Road K
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

So that they are received by Chuck by June 25th.

The County Line Roadrunner
MARAC Secretary
117 Hayden Ave.
Pass Christian Ms. 39871

“A Road Runner Is A Very Fast Bird”

Board of Directors

President: Bill Inkrote, K2NJ, 911 Route 579 Flemington, NJ 08822-5648 908-788-4827 K2NJ@MARAC.org

Vice-President: Bob Voss, N4CD 3133 Charring Cross, Plano TX. 75025-5712, 972-618-5235 N4CD@MARAC.org

Secretary: Norm Ellison, W2LSH, 117 Hayden Ave. Pass Christian MS. 39871, 228-452-1807, W2LSH@MARAC.org

Treasurer: James Grandinetti, KZ2P, P.O. Box 770777, Naples, FL 34107-0777 732-370-8055, K2JG@MARAC.org

Great Lakes Director: Randy Davis, N8ELO, 1894 Sheick Road Monroe, MI 48161-9468. 734-587-2454 N8ELO@MARAC.org

North Central Director: John Robson, WB9STT, 150 W. Wise Rd Schaumburg, IL 60193, 847-891-3906, WB9STT@MARAC.org

Northeast Director: Donald L. Kimble, AE3Z, 242 Leisure LN Horseheads NY, 14845-4005 USA 902-485-6055 1-607-795-4342, AE3Z@MARAC.org

South Central Director: Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, 27883 McLeiland Rd Harlingen, TX 78552-2108, 956-423-8660 WB9NUL@MARAC.org

Pacific Director: Robert T. Devine, KC6AWX, 407 Alameda Del Prado Novato, CA 94949-6302, 415-883-8980, KC6AWX@MARAC.org

Southeast Director: David Splitt, KE3VV, 6111 Utah Ave, N.W. Washington, DC 20015-2005, 202-362-3355 KE3VV@MARAC.org

Appointees

Awards Manager: Gene A. Olig Sr., KD9ZP, PO Box 2295 Fond du Lac, WI 54936-2295, 920-923-0130, KD9ZP@MARAC.org

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Custodian, Club Call WB0DPD: Bob Dyson, K0AYO, 8943 Overhill Circle, Desoto, KS 66018-9173, 913-583-3212 K0AYO@MARAC.org

Election Coordinator: Chuck Theisen, K9IA, N 5563 County Road K, Fond Du Luc, WI 54935 920-927-1605 K9IA@MARAC.org

MARAC General Counsel: David Splitt, KE3VV, 6111 Utah Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20015-2461, 202-362-3355 KE3VV@MARAC.org

MARAC Historian: Eldon “Sonny” Sanders, W5D VW 4161 Old Barker Ranch Rd. College Station, Tx 77845 W5VDW@MARAC.org

MARAC Webmaster: (See Information Coordinator)

Membership

Dues with a printed copy of the Newsletter are \$19.00 per year. Dues with an Electronic copy are \$14.00 per year. Dues with the Newsletter mailed to all continents other than North America 30.00 a year.