



THE COUNTY LINE

ROADRUNNER

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



Volume XXXIV

October 2004

Number 10

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT



**Bill K2NJ
Bridezilla**

I wonder if the rest of the family will make it till the 3rd of October. Ya see, our youngest daughter is getting married on that faithful day... Everything is dramatic with her – and Gail coined the phrase Bridezilla – a combination of Bride and Godzilla (famous Japanese monster)...

This is my third daughter married in two years, so it should be easy by now. The first one was our oldest – everything went smoothly and all I had to do was take out the wallet. The second one was MY oldest (previous marriage)... This was the easiest one – since she has been on her own for 15 years... we got an invitation and showed up... BUT now this one... Daughter from hell... she is 22, and I am the dumbest person on earth...

We are going through major renovations here at the home of NJ... new carpeting is due in here on Tuesday ... living room and hallway... (just prior to the wedding)... and we have a crew working on replacing my deck (that should have been taken down ten years ago) with a raised Patio... looks great... but while they have that work going on, all of my antenna's are disconnected and laying across the fence to the chicken yard, so now you know why I have not been on the air lately. They say it will be done prior to the wedding (hope so, because the rehearsal dinner is a BBQ in the yard) – pray for good weather.

For those two members that have not heard yet. MARAC has obtained K9DCJ as its club call. Joyce WB9NUL is now the club trustee. We started this a little time ago and Bob, K0AYO was the trustee – He asked to be replaced because of health problems. And as usual, Joyce jumped up saying she would do it... She is now working on designing new club QSL cards... I want to thank Loraine (Arnie's wife) for working with Joyce to get all the paperwork needed to file with the FCC to expedite this matter.

So when you hear K9DCJ on the air, its real – of course it wont be Arnie, but then there will never be another Arnie. You are missed my friend.

I have been thinking (dangerous) – and we (MARAC) have many awards that are commemorative to members who have passed away. Some of the new members of MARAC probably don't even know who W6CCM or WA6MAR were and what they did that was so special... Now we have Arnie (the original K9DCJ) – and I do not want to see this happen any longer. I have taken it upon myself to do a nice write-up on Arnie and place it on the MARAC web site.

Not just the Born, Died, stats that you see on tombstones, but thoughts and memories of him... Like he used to get calls from Dorothy (who?) when someone qualified for their USACA number and He would call the recipient and tell them their number and ask them to come up to 14.340 or so...and work the new holder... and of course keep on top of the pile by working more USACA holders than anyone... and so on... No, I am not going to divulge my info here, you will have to see it on the site later...

Wouldn't it be nice if others who knew some of the old commemoratives would step forward and say "Hey, let me take a jab at writing up for XXX". Joyce WB9NUL said she would do the Chocolate Cookie Monster (oops, I used phonetics). Can anyone else step out and say I will do XXX ... look at the list, see if you know them well enough... let me know.. its that simple.

Summer is over tomorrow... yea... because with fall here, the propagation should become more stable and DX should prevail again... I for one cant wait till December – mainly because I am so tired of hearing the crap on TV from the Republican and Democrats... Why cant they just each take a dueling pistol and at 20 paces

(Continued on Page 2)

President *(continued)*

we would know the winner? No counting, recounting etc... ye who stands, wins... Hey, maybe they would both hit... nah, too much to ask.

Short column this month. Bridezilla is due home and expects her mom to drop whatever she is doing and wait on her hand and foot... and we all know how annoying this is – especially when she has to stop waiting on me to please the new bride...

73' for now

Bill K2NJ MARAC President

2004 Convention Memories by Milton KY0E



KwikLog 2005 Update

By Don McMinds, K7DM

Apparently there is some misunderstanding, misconceptions, and a general lack of knowledge about the new KwikLog 2005. The intent of this article is to provide a better understanding of what KwikLog 2005 is, what it does, how it compares to the original or current KwikLog, and when it will be available.

What It Is:

Like the original, KwikLog 2005 is a logging program designed specifically for county hunters. As you all are aware, Willis, KJ4EJ, has done an outstanding job developing and maintaining the original program for many years, and it has served us all very well. Several years ago, he decided that it was too big a job to maintain and he made an agreement with MARAC such that MARAC would develop a new program. Apparently there is now some controversy over that agreement, but that is beyond the scope of this article. Design and development of the new program was started about a year and a half ago. Gene, KD9ZP and I began coding at that time, and shortly thereafter Tom, NJ2DX, joined us. The basic features of KwikLog 2005 are virtually the same as the original, but many of the screens and their operation are different. Gene has made presentations at the last two national

KwikLog 2005 is written in Visual Basic 6.0 and its database uses Access 2000. The database contains the same information that the current KwikLog has, but using it should prove to be easier and faster because of the features of Access 2000. The database will be provided to all users as part of the program package and it is not necessary for a user to have Access 2000 installed. Conversion routines have been developed to convert data from both the current KwikLog and other logging programs that use the ADIF format.

What It Does:

The primary function, of course, is to log QSOs and track the progress made toward the various awards. Logging a contact with KwikLog 2005 is simple, but the logging screen is significantly different from the current KwikLog's logging screen. QSOs are saved in a user's personal database that is part of the Access 2000 database. Other features include displaying a current total count for all awards that are being tracked, editing of log entries, printing MRCs, and a "Needs" list for any award that shows the counties needed for all the states or for a specific state. This list can be displayed, printed or written to a file.

How it Compares:

Virtually all of the features of the current KwikLog have been or will be incorporated into KwikLog 2005. The underlying difference is our use of the Access 2000 database system. Those of you who have seen Gene's presentations have undoubtedly noticed the visual differences between the two programs. Although operation of KwikLog 2005 differs from the current KwikLog in many respects, the basic functionality has been preserved.

When:

As of this writing (September 8, 2004), we are on track for a first release on January 1, 2005. Some features, such as the map routine, may not be available for the first release, but will be included in a subsequent release we will provide periodic "How To" articles to answer any questions that arise.

Interested In Testing?

We're always looking for help testing the program, so send me an e-mail (k7dm@casco.net) if you're interested in. The hours are long and the pay is terrible, but you might have fun anyway.

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

1. "Sorry Wrong Number," by Lucille Fletcher was an acclaimed "Suspense" Drama on CBS Radio and later adapted for a Paramount motion picture — can you name the Stars of "The Radio and Movie Versions?"
2. December 15, 1991, millions of American Radio listeners tuned in on a presentation heard on all U.S. Radio networks as well as many Public Noncommercial stations. What was that program?
3. In 1938 an unusual thing took place on CBS Radio when two networks stars played the same role in different presentations of the same story. Can you name the Stars and Story?
4. November 17, 1938 the first Radio panel Quiz Show was launched. What was it?
5. On May 31, 1948 "The Lux Radio Theater" featured the same personality playing the role of Priest Father Paul as he had done in the RKO Movie with the same name. He was:
6. Ralph Edward's was Star of: A. "Beat The Clock" B. "Detect and Collect" C. "Truth or Consequence" D. "People Are Funny"
7. Joe Garagola was: A. Comedian B. Sportscaster C. Character Actor D. Announcer on "The Spike Jones Show."

Answers:

1. Radio: Agnes Moorhead Movie: Barbara Stanwick 2. "We Hold These Truths" Written and Produced by Norman Corwin. 3. Celebrating the Bicentennial of the Bill of Rights. Stars included Lloyd Bridges, Studs Terkel, Ester Rolle, Fess Parker, James Earl Jones, Richard Dysart, Rod McKuen and Jill Eikenberry. 4. "Mayor Of The Town" and Orson Welles ("The Campbell Playhouse") both starred as Ebenezer Scrooge in Dickens, "A Christmas Carol." 5. "Information Please" ("The Campbelle Playhouse") both starred as Ebenezer Scrooge in Dickens, "A Christmas Carol." 6. Ralph Edward's, "Truth or Consequence" 7. Joe Garagola was: Sportscaster

October Birthdays

WD8LQB	Oct - 01	K7DM	Oct - 02
W5EG	Oct - 04	W1ENE	Oct - 06
W9JL	Oct - 08	WB4FFV	Oct - 08
WA2NEW	Oct - 09	W0NAC	Oct - 09
N8WTQ	Oct - 10	K0EH	Oct - 10
K6OHM	Oct - 12	KC0QER	Oct - 14
KCA6RC	Oct - 16	N9JLT	Oct - 16
W7GHT	Oct - 17	KC0JG	Oct - 19
WB0CQO	Oct - 19	W7GQK	Oct - 20
WD8ELH	Oct - 21	AI5P	Oct - 21
AF3X	Oct - 22	KW4CZ	Oct - 23
WA4HXG	Oct - 24	K6TEX	Oct - 24
K4ELK	Oct - 24	W8OP	Oct - 25
K8XTQ	Oct - 25	DL5MC	Oct - 26
W3DYA	Oct - 29	KF8K	Oct - 30
N4EWK	Oct - 30	K8WXJ	Oct - 31

If your birthday is not in the database at:
www.marac.org/database
 Send it to: kd9zp@marac.org

Database Printouts Available

KD9ZP

Awards Manager

The printout consists of:

- **Award Rules**
- **MARAC Members** – Past and Present listed by Call Area. This printout has Names, Addresses, Email Address, and number of stars including BINGO
- **Stars** – List of all Calls having at least one Star with their number. List sorted by Call.
- **List of Stars by Number** – Complete list of all Stars in numerical order.

\$5 for MARAC Members – This includes \$3.85 for Priority Mail shipping \$10 for non Members
 Make check out to **MARAC Awards** and mail to :
MARAC Awards P.O Box 2295 Fond du Lac, WI 54936-2295

Some real stories to tell!*by Jerry KISO*

From time to time you just have a good story to tell and I happened upon a fellow that started telling an interesting bit. He showed up at one of our local club meeting in Roanoke, Virginia and as the routine goes, we all introduce ourselves by name and call. This young fellow gave his call N4XE and name Willie, and since he was new to most of us at the meeting, he was ask to give a little information about his ham interest. So Willie began by first saying he had been licensed in 1958 and that he enjoyed most everything thing about ham radio in general. He built most of the equipment used during his early years. He then proceeded to give of some of his former calls (K8MIH and WA4RDV) and he was USA-CA holder #37, issued August 22, 1970 and Charter member MARAC # C-12. Since I've been County Hunting for about 10 years or so, this was of great interest. I talked with Willie after the meeting and few times on the telephone and on 10 meters in recent days. I ask him how long it took him to work USA-CA, "Willie said, "about two years." I was interested in the band or bands and he told me that he used mostly 75 meter and some 20 meter. He told me that he had a photo card he always put in with his QSL cards and he would bring one to the next meeting. A photo taken in 1969 or 70 of Willie standing behind his 1957 English Ford with 75 meter antenna. He was running a HW12 - single band radio on SSB. This photo shows the County/State line sign of Monroe County, West Virginia and Craig County, Virginia.

Willie Carr/N4XE has now re-activated his membership in the local club, MARAC and has expressed interested in putting out some counties. It is always great to here stories from county hunting and Willie has plans to be at the 37th Annual 2005 MARAC National Convention in Roanoke, Virginia, July 21-24, at the Wyndham Hotel.

***New members***

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

R-3152 KB4IT Morris C Johnson
219 Westchester Drive
Griffin, GA 30223
Spalding
1-770-228-678
kb4it@earthlink.net

LAST CALL
3M Mini

October, 14th, 15th and 16th

SEND REGISTRATION FEE AND COST OF DINNER TO:
William E. Bell (KM4W)
738 Doak Road
Manchester, TN 37355
Tel. (931) 728-7379

Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club

**Treasurer's Report
September 30, 2004**

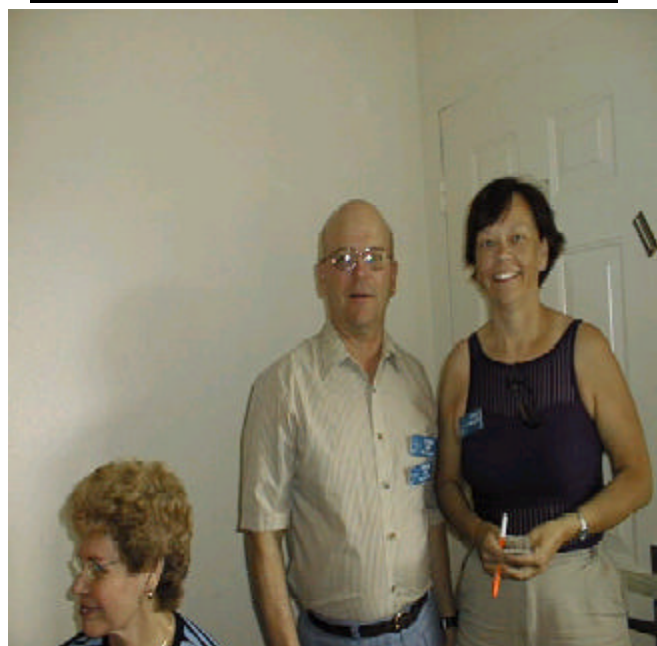
Funds Balance 8/31/04		\$28,882.96
Adjustments:		
MARAC 2004 Convention - return of advance		2,500.00
Income:		
Awards	\$939.00	
Dues	\$759.00	
Interest	<u>\$5.86</u>	
		\$1,703.86
Expenses:		
Gene Olig – expenses	\$197.68	
2004 MARAC Convention	\$222.62	
Stafford Engraving - Awards	\$74.00	
Fairmont Awards	\$411.50	
Print-Right, Inc – newsletter	<u>\$522.36</u>	
		\$1,428.16
		<u>\$275.70</u>
Account Balances:		\$31,658.66
Money Market Account	\$29,836.79	
Checking Account	<u>\$1,821.87</u>	
		\$31,658.66

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

2004 Convention Memories by Milton KY0E



MARAC Board Meeting
Schedule for 2004 - 2005

2004

Nov 10, Dec 8

2005

Jan 12, Feb 9, Mar 9, Apr 13,

May 11, June 8,

July At The Convention

**DEADLINE FOR
THE NOVEMBER
ISSUE IS
OCTOBER 25TH**

MINUTES
MARAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND MEMBER MEETING
Date: September 8, 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
Secretary	Norm Ellison — W2LSH
Treasurer	Jim Grandinetti – KZ2P
Great Lakes Director	Randy Davis – N8ELQ
North Central Director	John Robson – WB9STT
Southeast Director	Daveid Splitt – KE3VV
South Central Director	Joyce Boothe – WB9NUL

The Members present were: Hugh (K8GPC), Mike (W0MU)

Upon a motion by Norm (W2LSH) and seconded by Joyce (WB9NUL) the minutes of the July 14, 2004 meeting were approved. Roll call indicated 6 in favor, none opposed.

Upon a motion by Dave (KE3VV) and seconded by Joyce (WB9NUL) the Treasurer's reports of July 31 and August 31, 2004 was accepted. Roll call indicated 5 in favor, 1 abstention and none opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

A: None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

A: Dave (KE3VV) moved that we approve Merit Awards to Bill (KM4W), Bob (W0AWO), Joyce (WB9NUL) and Barry (W9UCW). The motion was seconded by Randy (N8ELQ) Roll call indicated 5 in favor, 1 abstention and none opposed.

B: Joyce (WB9NUL) reported that the FCC has approved the call sign change For MARAC Club station from WB0DPD to K9DCJ. Joyce (WB9NUL) is the custodian. The approved this action by a vote of 5 in favor and none opposed vote.

C: Dave (KE3VV) moved that the Board authorize obtaining an inside table for the Dayton HamVention, the motion was seconded by Bill (K2NJ). Roll call indicated 5 in favor, 1 abstention and none opposed.

D: Bill (K2NJ) announced that Item (D) is out of order as it is not ready yet.

E: New Laptop for the MARAC Awards Manager, (KD9ZP). Dave (KE3VV) moved that the Board authorize the purchase of a new laptop for the Awards Manager, as proposed, with the addition that we also authorize the purchase of MS Office. The motion was seconded by Jim (KZ2P). Roll call indicated 5 in favor, with 1 opposed.

F: Bill (K2NJ) expressed his feelings/thoughts concerning the several requests he has received from the membership regarding the slowness of the Awards Committee's action on completing the revisions of the award's rules. He asked that those responsible act and present the revisions to the BOD in October. Dave (KE3VV) indicated that he would send the revisions to Bill by the end of the week. Requests for new awards will not be reviewed until the revisions are completed.

OPEN MEETING Nothing at this time.

With no further Business to come before the Board, Dave (KE3VV) moved that we adjourn. The motion was seconded by Norm (W2LSH). The motion carried, 6 in favor, none opposed. We adjourned at 20:39 EDT.

Respectfully Submitted,
Norm Ellison W2LSH
Secretary, MARAC

DATELINE CW

By Ed, KN4Y

County hunting is not quitting The busy career,
County hunting is the fitting Of self to its sphere.

I am in the shack with Gator having a cool one to wash down the boiled peanuts. I had just finished working the WAE DX CW contest and now showing him how to send my log to the ARRL logbook of the world, Gator points to a post-it and reads, "Bob, N4CD and 30 meters. What is that about Dude?" "Gator we discussed how many of the CW county hunters are now working counties on 30 meters. Bob is requesting MARAC to have an award for 30 meters." "I see no problem with the request. All an applicant has to do is request a 30-meter endorsement. I point to the cooler; "Bob wants MARAC to have a worked counties on 30-meter band certificate" Gator gets two more cool ones and dips out a strainer full of peanuts from the boiling pot. He shuts off the hot plate. "What wrong with that Dude?"

"MARAC deals with the working of counties but acknowledges an all band effort by adding an endorsement on the award, but the idea is appealing."

Gator hands me a cool one, "I know that Dude. I was here when your MARAC certificate came in worked all counties endorsed all 20 meters and you only need 489 more for 40 meters.

"You have a good memory Gator. What is the current routine on the CW net?"

"That be easy. Check in on 14.056.5 MHz and run the county. Then QSY to 40 and maybe 15 and 10 meters."

"That is correct, what is the routine now?"

"The same thing except 30 meters is added to the QSY list," " You have been paying attention. The stations listening on the net can QSY with the mobile and work the county on another band if they are going for an endorsement." Gator hands me a bowl of boiled peanuts. I start eating the peanuts being careful I do not burn my fingers with the hot water inside. Very few can just eat a few boiled peanuts so we take a break. Ten minutes goes by and Gator asks, "MARAC currently has a 5-band award, so why not a 30-meter band award. What be the problem Dude,"

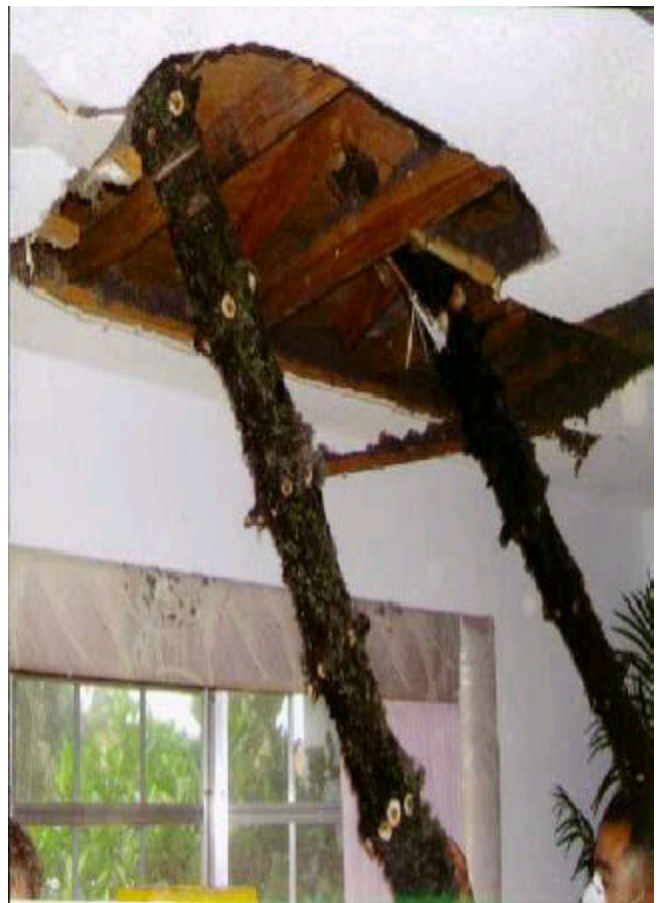
"Well Gator, MARAC currently does has a five band award which is similar to the ARRL five band award, that is working counties on the 10, 15, 20, 40 and 80 meter bands. Not many are working towards this award. There have been 47 requests for the 5 Band Award. 23 in 1988, 10 in 1989, 6 in 1990. 3 in 1991, and 4 in 1992. The last award was issued in December 1996. The records I have do not show any upgrades to any of the issued awards. It has been 8 years and no one has applied for the 5-band award. I guess most county hunters are mainly interested in working the counties. But a single band award might be the ticket to get folks interested, we will have to wait and see."

"Sounds good Dude but I have a call from customers and have to blow this joint. Remember to get holy water you boil the hell out of well water." Gator is laughing as he heads out the door.

It is a good thing I do not have to stay sane in this environment. I tune in the CW net and lean back in my chair. I glance at the calendar and see this month is the CQP, the PQP, the 3M convention, the IQP, the ten-ten Sprint and the ten-ten CW contest. A balanced diet is an 807 in each hand. Wow, nap time already.

**HERE ARE A FEW PICS TO LET YOU KNOW WHAT CAN HAPPEN WITH TALL
ANTENNA SUPPORT TREES**

Hurricane Francis @ W4OV



2004 Convention Memories by Milton KY0E



Major Awards Issued For The Month Of September

KD9ZP - Awards Manager

Award	Number
LC-1	283
LC-2	6
LC-3	1
All Others	10

Call	Date	Award	Number
W0QE	9/5/2004	BINGO	254
AB7PX	9/6/2004	BINGO	255
WQ7A	9/9/2004	BINGO	256
K7REL	9/15/2004	BINGO	257
AC2J	9/7/2004	DX Mobile	50 Countries
WG6X	9/14/2004	Last County Count 425	23
ND3T	9/2/2004	Master's Gold*	10
N4CD	9/29/2004	Master's Gold*	11
K7REL	9/16/2004	Worked all Counties - 2nd Time	338
KW4V	9/21/2004	Worked all Counties - 2nd Time	339
WB9NUL	9/30/20/04	Worked all Counties - 2nd Time	340
VE9DH	5/30/2004	YL Mobile	2015 Counties

* K9DCJ – Arnie Bachmann Memorial Award

USA-CA For September From Ted Melinosky – CQ Magazine

To Call	Award Date	Certificate Number
W5UGD	9/30/2004	1103

**Note: John's mother;
Violet M. Hoyt was issued her number on:
June 27, 1991 - #719 Using the same call.**

You may view her information at: www.marac.org/database

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. 39571, 228-452-1807, W2LSH@MARAC.org

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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

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Custodian, Club Call WB0DPD: Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, 21175 FM2556, Santa Rosa, TX 78593 1-956-636-9161 WB9NUL@MARAC.org

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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.