



THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

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Volume XL

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From My Point of View

Joyce, WB9NUL

First of all, I want to congratulate all the winners of this years top MARAC Awards.

County Hunter of the Year

K8ZZ

Best Mobile of the Year – CW

1. W0GXQ
2. N4CD
3. K0ARS-tie
4. N9JF-tie

Best Net Control-CW

1. W0GXQ
2. N4CD
3. NM2L

Best Mobile of the Year – SSB

1. KL1V
2. N4AAT
3. NX4W

Best net Control-SSB

1. KZ2P
2. N5UZW
3. W0FP

Best Mobile Team

1. N0KV/N0DXE
2. KB0BA/N0XYL
3. AA9JJ/N9QPQ

Custodian Award

KD9ZP

President's Award

AA8RR



Thanks to all of you for your time and effort spent in the pursuit of our hobby.

Let me welcome some new people on board to MARAC. First, Leo WY7LL was elected Vice President. The KL1V appointment as Election Coordinator has been approved by the Board. These folks will add additional strengths and view points to our club. KC6AWX has stepped up and volunteered, and I have appointed him to become our new Awards Manager. Under the MARAC Bylaws, the appointment is effective when made, and I will ask the Board to ratify the appointment at the next BOD meeting. Bob is well versed on all the programs that are used to maintain the Awards program and will continue what past award chairpersons have added to MARAC.

And now to some other important MARAC business. We need your input on a controversial decision. Let me explain. The “Annual Meeting of MARAC” is a Board of Directors’ meeting held at the National Convention. In the days before that meeting, I received conflicting pieces of information concerning the approval of the Master Diamond Award and its start date. The Awards Committee had worked long and hard to develop and fine tune the Award before it was submitted for approval. That’s always a lengthy and tedious process.

I learned that a number of persons who would be eligible to seek the award had been assured that the “start date” would be two years ago, in June, 2008, and had been making contacts toward the award for some time. That seemed odd, considering that the award had not even been formulated at that time... let alone approved. I also found that a majority of the Awards Committee had voted to reopen the discussion concerning the proposed start date but that the award had been sent for Board for approval

before allowing that discussion to occur. That, too was disconcerting.

I did a little research and found that when the preceding award, the Master Platinum Award, was first submitted for approval in January 2003, it was returned to the Awards Committee for additional revisions. When it was resubmitted to the Board in February 2003, a motion to approve the Award was defeated because of a similar start date issue. Another motion was made and passed at that meeting mandating the start date of this Award to be the date that the Board approved the Master Platinum Award. The BOD's thinking was, "How can one work for an award before it is an award?"

I agree with that concept but as the "Annual Meeting" time neared, I realized that there were strong opinions on both sides of this issue. Some of those voices were suggesting that "MARAC Headquarters doesn't listen to its members."

Just hours before the meeting I decided to make sure that the members of MARAC would have an invitation to be heard before the date issue is revisited. At the meeting I removed the Master Diamond Award from the meeting agenda. Let me say that it was my decision and mine alone!

I am asking you, the membership, to contact your District Director and entire Board with your opinion. Some individuals are advocating for a start date of July 3, 2008 – about the time the development of the new award began. Others would like the start date to be the day it is approved by the Board of Directors. Please let all those who vote know how you feel. I'd like to know too - even though I can't vote. Whatever the final decision, hopefully the members opinions will have been heard.

I want to say a few more things about the happenings of the last month. By what I receive in e-mails, phone calls and letters, it's obvious that some fantastic distortions of actual events and motives get posted on the internet or passed around somehow. I'm sorry that these things lead people astray in their thinking. When I hear or read these kinds of things, I go to the persons involved to see if there is another side of the story. I wish everyone did.

For instance, I was told and eventually confirmed by looking at the meeting transcript that an attempt to enter a motion via the internet was made at least twice during the Annual Meeting the instant the numbered agenda item referring to the starting date was reached. Later I was told I had no right to ignore a motion that was on the floor. In both cases, the agenda item was not read, and therefore no motion was entertained. The individual(s) who offered the motion(s) were out of order. I guess much ado was made of that. I'm sorry if I upset someone's applegart, but the only motion that can supercede all else is a motion to adjourn. The chair never recognized the motion(s) made and if I had known it was being made, I would have ruled it out of order.

One really laughable example is when somebody uses a term like "MARAC Headquarters," or other references suggesting that there is some conniving, conspiring oneness to the Club... as if the BOD is regularly huddled together, planning some sort of mayhem or retaliation. That's a joke. In actuality, the Board of Directors is a diverse bunch of independent thinkers from all over the country, and there is no pattern of alliances. I like to think they are all friends of mine, but when it comes to issues presented, it's impossible to predict people's positions. And that's OK. It's how it has to work.

I would like to see persons who differ with policies and/or procedures direct their energy toward opening a dialogue with their Officers and Directors to persuade the representatives that their opinions are correct and proper. If that effort fails to satisfy their needs, they should run for election themselves... rather than "blogging" a distorted spin in cyberspace. That's like tilting at windmills. Nothing positive comes of it.

As for the convention, it was small but we had fun. The King Ranch tour was great and it only rained when they were in the bus or in buildings. All but one really enjoyed the Chuck Wagon dinner. The dolphin tour was canceled as the water was too rough because of the storm that went into Mexico. Ah, yes... we suffer storms of many kinds.

Dateline CW

Ed, KN4Y

A CW county hunter will not listen to reason...Reason means what some one else has got to say. NOT!

I just finished e-mailing my Canada Day log to RAC when I hear Gator's truck slide to a stop against the recycled railroad tie. He comes hopping in carrying two lattes and a white foam carry out container. I take a latte, "Why are you such hurry, the sun will rise without your help." I wonder how a county hunter could survive without a hot latte. Gator ignores my attempt at sarcasm, "What I want to know is what Norm said about the CW county hunters meeting held during the MARAC convention." I slowly sip the latte. "Brace yourself Gator; Norm said there was no CW meeting." "I knew that would happen because Al did not attend the convention. Did Norm say anything about standardizing a band rotation, like the Jerry rig standard of 40/30/20/17/15/25/10-meters." "No."

I change the subject, "What is in the carry out box." Gator opens the white foam box, "This my friend are deep fried pickles, with a container of Jalapeno ranch dressing dip. Here try some." Gator hands me a plastic fork and I stab a pickle, than another, I do the stab, dip, eat routine so familiar in a MARAC hospitality room. Gator looks at my mobile hand log, "How did you do running counties in the panhandle?" "Saturday was great. I ran several stations on five bands, but Sunday was a bust. What you looking for?" "Your IARU world championship log from the run in the motel parking lot." "There is none, I partied late and went to bed." Gator understands as he attends many ACE meetings. Gator picks up my field day log.

"I see as K4WAK, the club call, you made 426 CW contacts, many county hunters got natural bingo for Wakulla, County." Gator picks up my Canada Day log, "Nice going. You made 109 QSO's, did you fall asleep at the key?" Gator picks up a certificate off the desk, "What is this Service Award?" "Boy, you sure are inquisitive. Are your shoes too tight? You got the certificate in your hands, read the cutline." Gator reads out loud, "On behalf of all of the members of MARAC, and myself, I want to thank you for the many hours of serving on the Award Committee." Gator starts laughing so hard he is almost into convulsions. I may have to call 911, if I can remember the number.

I finish off my latte and have a few more deep fried pickles, I better not mention my 15 hours in the CQ VHF Contest and getting only 18 QSO's and that I quit at 10:15 Saturday evening and the band opened at 10:30. Many stations reported working 100 and more QSO's in that two hour period. I got to learn to stay up later but I did get four new counties on 6-meters. . .

Gator starts breathing normally again, tears running down his face and he goes to the computer, A few minutes later the printer stops and he hands me the print out, it is the list of mobiles heard on the CW county hunters frequencies during July. AA8R, AB4YZ, AB7RW, AE3Z, AF3X, AI5P, K0ARS, K2HVN, K4YFH, K8MM, K8ZZ, KA4RRU, KB6TAL, KB6UF, KC3X, KE3VV, KL1V, KM6HB, KN4Y, KO1U, KO7X, N0KV, N0SM, N3AHA, N3HOO, N4CD, N4JT, N5XG, N7IV, N9QS, NF0N, NM2L, NN9K, NT2A, VA3XOV, W0BH, W0NAC, W3DYA, W4HSA, W4SIG, W5LXG, W6OUL, W7FEN, W7GOK, W8GEJ, W8JJ, W9MSE, W9OP, WA4PGM, WB2ABD. He heads for the door, waves and is gone like the time spent on a county line. I throw a deep fried pickle at him. I did not hear his cell phone; it must be on silent running.

I sit back and relax in the chair listening for Kyle to run his next county, I glance at the contest calendar, the North American CW QSO party, and I will probably work the party mobile in Pasco County, Florida, the Worked All Europe on CW adventure, the Maryland-DC QSO party. I see the ARRL Rookie Roundup is only Phone, I am sure there are Rookies that do CW, a bummer. Not to forget the New Jersey, Hawaii, Kansas, and Ohio State QSO parties 242 counties up for grabs. For the CW DX'er there is the South Africa DX Contest. Darn I forget to tell Gator about my operating NA-085 in the I.O.T.A. contest; I make a post-it note and put it on the cooler. Dedication requires a nap.



Annual Meeting Minutes
MARAC Board of Directors Meeting
July 10, 2010

Ed. Note: These minutes are not yet approved by the Board of Directors

The Annual Meeting of the MARAC Board of Directors was called to order at 1400Z by the President (Joyce-WB9NUL).

Board Members Present - at Weslaco, TX

President - Joyce Boothe - WB9NUL
Secretary – Jim Grandinetti – KZ2P
North Central Director - Cliff Bird - AC0B

Board Members Present - via mIRC Chat Room

Vice President – Charles Secrest – AD8W
Great Lakes Director - Randy Hatt - AA8R
Northeast Director - Carol-Ann Reitman - AB2LS
South Central Director - Ross Harrell - N0ZA
Southeast Director - Dave Splitt - KE3VV

A motion was made by Cliff (AC0B) and seconded by Joyce (WB9NUL) to accept the minutes of the December 1, 2009 meeting. The minutes were accepted by a vote of 7 in favor and none opposed.

A motion was made by Jim (KZ2P) and seconded by Cliff (AC0B) to accept the Treasurer's Reports for December 2009, January 2010, February 2010, March 2010, April 2010 and May 2010. The reports were approved by a vote of 6 in favor, 1 abstention, and none opposed.

Jim (W9JL) and Barry (W9UCW) performed an audit of the Treasurer's accounts on May 16, 2010. All of the Treasurer's records were found to be correct and in compliance with generally accepted accounting practices. A motion was made by Dave (KE3VV) and seconded by Cliff (AC0B) to accept the report of the Financial Audit conducted by Jim (W9JL) and Barry (W9UCW) on May 16, 2010. The audit was accepted by a vote of 6 in favor, 1 abstention and none opposed.

Old Business

A motion was made by Jim (KZ2P) and seconded by Carol-Ann (AB2LS) to hire an offsite vender to provide backup services and storage of all MARAC data contained on the Awards Manager, Treasurer, Secretary, and Data Manager's computers. After a discussion, the motion was amended. A substitute motion by Dave (KE3VV) and seconded by Jim (KZ2P) was made to allow the Awards Manager, Treasurer, Secretary, and the Data Manager to use an offsite vender (such as Carbonite) or an alternate source of backup and save all data on their respective MARAC computers.. The motion was accepted by a vote of 7 in favor and none opposed.

A motion was made by Dave (KE3VV) and seconded by Chuck (AD8W) to accept the following revised

fee schedule for the LOGGER program. The motion was approved by a vote of 7 in favor and none opposed.

LOGGER Download	- \$20.00
LOGGER CD	- \$25.00
Replacement LOGGER CD	- \$ 5.00

Jim (W9JL) audited the records of the Awards Manager. All of the Awards Manager's records were found to be complete, correct, and in order. A motion was made by Jim (KZ2P) and seconded by Chuck (AD8W) to accept the Audit Report. The motion was approved by a vote of 6 in favor, 1 abstention, and none opposed.

New Business

A motion was made by Dave (KE3VV) and seconded by Chuck (AD8W) that MARAC will offer only email Road Runner subscriptions to all classes of new and renewing members under section 6.5(b) of the MARAC By Laws. The motion was approved by a vote of 7 in favor and none opposed.

Joyce (WB9NUL) appointed Kent (KL1V) as MARAC Election Coordinator. A motion was made by Dave (KE3VV) and seconded by Carol-Ann (AB2LS) to approve the appointment. The appointment was approved by a vote of 7 in favor and none opposed.

A motion was made by Dave (KE3VV) and seconded by Jim (KZ2P) to table the formation of a MARAC Recruitment Committee and nominate Duane (WV2B) as Chairman until the next MARAC Board of Directors meeting. The motion was approved by a vote of 7 in favor and none opposed.

A motion was made by Dave (KE3VV) and seconded by Chuck (AD8W) to confirm the purchase of a laptop computer for the Awards Manager. The purchase price is not to exceed \$1,700.00. The motion was approved by a vote of 7 in favor and none opposed.

A motion was made by Dave (KE3VV) and seconded by Carol Ann (AB2LS) to donate \$300.00 to the Michigan Mini. The motion was approved by a vote 7 in favor and none opposed.

The Awards Committee requests that the MARAC Board of Directors eliminate the Net Control Award. A motion was made by Dave (KE3VV) and seconded by Jim (KZ2P) to eliminate the MARAC Net Control Award. The motion was approved by a vote of 7 in favor and none opposed.

A motion was made by Dave (KE3VV) and seconded by Cliff (AC0B) to advance \$3,000.00 to Brian (NX0X) and Shari (KB0MHH) who are the co-hosts for the 2011 MARAC National Convention in Duluth, MN. The motion was approved by a vote of 7 in favor and none opposed.

Joyce (WB9NUL) removed the request from the Awards Committee as submitted by the Awards Manager for the approval of the proposed new Master Diamond Award. Noting that the Awards Manager had resigned prior to the Board consideration of the new Award and that appointment of a new Awards Manager is pending. The President will call for a vote on the Mobile Diamond Award after the new Awards Manager has been approved by the Board of Directors and the Officers and Directors obtain additional input from the Awards Committee and the membership on the new award. The President will request, in the next issue of the Road Runner, that the members of MARAC contact their District

Directors and MARAC Officers and express their thoughts on this award.

A motion was made by Dave (KE3VV) and seconded by Jim (KZ2P) to adjourn the meeting. Those in favor of adjournment were KE3VV, KZ2P, AC0B and AB2LS. Those opposed to adjournment were AA8R, WQ7A, AD8W and N0ZA. Before Joyce (WB9NUL) cast the deciding vote Chuck (AD8W) made a request to enter another motion.

A motion was made by Chuck (AD8W) and seconded by Dave (KE3VV) to present Randy (AA8R) the MARAC Outstanding Service Award. The motion was approved by a vote of 7 in favor and none opposed.

Joyce (WB9NUL) cast the deciding vote to adjourn the meeting at 1452Z.

Respectfully submitted,
James Grandinetti

New Members

<u>MARAC Number</u>	<u>Callsign</u>	<u>Name</u>
R4419	AJ4QP	Harold McFarland
R4420	N8USW	Cindy Messenger
R4421	W7UDG	Robert Handly
R4422	K0WJ	Lon Martin
R4423	K1TKL	Paul Wisiolek



Editor's Note: Space constraints forced me to skip the Table of Contents for this issue.

Further, I have two more great photos from the National Convention that will run next month -- again space limitations are the problem.

Dave KU4YM

2010 Member Awards

County Hunter of the Year CW: K8ZZ, Ed Eklin

Best Net Control SSB: KZ2P, Jim Grandinetti

Best Net Control CW: W0GXQ, Jerry Mertz

Best Mobile SSB: KL1V, Kent Reinke

Best Mobile CW: W0GXQ, Jerry Mertz

Best Mobile Team: N0KV & N0DXE, Barry & Patricia Mitchell

Please take time to congratulate these members for a job well done in furthering the advancement of our great hobby of County Hunting.

Ballot Recognition

I would like to congratulate the following stations for receiving recognition from their peer's with at least 10 points or better in vote totals for the entire year or at least the top three. These calls are in order of finish for the year 2010.

BEST NET CONTROL SSB: KZ2P, N5UZW, W0MU

BEST NET CONTROL CW: W0GXQ, N4CD, NM2L

BEST MOBILE SSB: KL1V, N4AAT, NX4W, N0KV, N8KIE, K8ZZ, KM9X

BEST MOBILE CW: W0GXQ, N4CD, K0ARS, N9JF *tie

BEST TEAM: N0KV/N0DXE, KB0BA/N0XYL, AA9JJ/N9QPQ, KM9X/KB9MGI, N6PDB/
WA6OCV, WY7LL/WY7ML

I want to thank Lloyd - NX4W for all the help and information on getting up to speed on the election coordinator position. I hope I can do as well as he has been doing in this position.

Kent Reinke, KL1V
MARAC Election Coordinator
P.O. Box 215
Valdez, Ak, 99686-0215



August 2010

Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 NA qp cw 10-10 ssb
8 NA qp cw 10-10 ssb	9	10	11	12	13	14 MD/DC qp
15 MD/DC qp	16	17	18	19	20	21 NA qp ssb NJ qp
22 NA qp ssb NJ qp	23	24	25	26	27	28 OH qp KS qp HI qp
29 OH qp KS qp HI qp	30	31	1	2	3	4

History Happens

Gary, K4EXT

I sure thought it would be cooler during summer here in the mountains of Eastern Tennessee. July had quite a few days with temps in the 90's, although it sometimes cooled down to the 60's at night with a nice breeze. Can't wait to experience the fall colors though ... out mobile in the mountains of course.

The CH/MARAC history website is up and running in full-mode now (whew). It can be accessed directly via <http://www.CHarchive.com> as well as via links from the <http://www.marac.org> official club website. The history website is mostly pictures at this time, and the number of pictures is going up regularly as I get new ones in from folks, like those sent to me by N9QS, K1SO, W0MU, W9UCW, KA3QLF, and KL7D in July. Hint: please remember to send me some of your pics too! More text will become a part of the website as a MARAC ... Thru-the-Years section will attempt to annually chronicle activities and events since the early days of the club.

Looking back is usually the primary focus of this column as well as my own club function as historian. But for many of us, our 80th birthday is still off into the future somewhere. Several important questions might abound. Will I still be alive? Will I still be able to think? Will I be able to eat more than Jello and applesauce? Will I still be a ham? Will I still be a county hunter? Will I have gotten my USA-CA yet? OK, that last question might only apply to me.

But anyway, the picture below shows what Arnie Bachman, K9DCJ (SK) did on his 80th birthday back in 1995 or so. Wow, you gotta be kidding! Even his wife Lorraine had some serious concerns!



Arnie K9DCJ working
on his tower on his 80th
birthday! I was in
the house with my fingers
on 911
Lorraine

Treasurer's Report
June 30, 2010

Funds Balance May 31, 2010 **\$16,025.49**

Income:

Membership	\$786.00	
Money Market Interest	\$2.80	
Logger Distribution	\$100.00	
Awards Manager Income	\$579.00	
		<u>\$1,467.80</u>

Expenses:

Print Right	\$452.50	
(101 units @ \$4.48 x 12 = \$53.76/year)		
Election Chairman Shipping	\$11.74	
Bank Fee (Check Supply)	\$31.84	
Sunshine Expense (KM6QF)	\$40.44	
		<u>\$536.52</u>

Account Balances **\$931.28**

Checking Account \$3,344.10

Money Market Account \$13,612.67

\$16,956.77

Note:

The following monies are not included in the above:

Awards Chairman's Funds	\$1,500.00
2010 National Convention Seed	\$3,000.00



National Pix



The County Line Roadrunner
MARAC Secretary
2690 Bohicket Rd
Johns Island, SC 29455



“A Road Runner Is A Very Fast Bird”

Monthly Deadline for Articles is the 25th!

Board of Directors

President: Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, 21175 FM2556, Santa Rosa, TX 78593 1-956-636-9161, joycenul@aol.com

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Dues with an Electronic of the Newsletter copy are \$14.00 per year.