



# THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

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## Riding the County Lion Dave – KE3VV

July already – and while the County Lion puts the finishing touches on the golf cart for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade (flag, flags, and more flags), I will put down a few words for my last column as President of MARAC. The Big Green Dragon, who is a great admirer of polished prose, can hardly wait until I switch to polishing the occasional cowboy boot or pickup truck. I have always known that the Dragon had a preference for the musings of Gator (I think they are actually distant relatives), so no great expectations there anyway.

It seems like not so long ago that I was taking the reins from Joyce (WB9NUL) and now I am succeeding her as Past President. Many thanks and a big bunch of virtual roses to Joyce for all her years of service to MARAC – not only for her fine job as President and Board member, but also for many years of doing much of the work to put on many national conventions and minis. A tip of the hat to Barry (W9UCW) the tolerant spouse who also put on some of the best antenna workshops I have ever attended.

I want to thank everyone who has served as a board member and officer of MARAC during my tenure – and you know who you are – but a special thanks to three who did most of the actual work while I just soaked up the glory (the Big Green Dragon is laughing so hard that I think he may be turning color). Folks, the dues don't get collected and the bills don't get paid without a hard-working Secretary and Treasurer – we all owe the retiring incumbents - Jim (KZ2P) and Matt (W0NAC) - a lot of thanks for their efforts and loyalty. Tough shoes to fill for Terry (WQ7A) and Aubrey (W7OLY), but I know they will give it 100%.

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But the biggest thanks by far must go to Bob (KC6AWX) who has labored long and hard in the vineyard of vintage plaques and certs. MARAC is an awards club and without a steady stream of awards going out to the members, there simply is no club. In addition to keeping the award fires stoked and smokin', Bob and made a number of improvements in the process that have served all members well – the mobiles and the stations who work the mobiles. Thanks, Bob - your successor will have an extra-large pair of shoes to fill.

So heigh-ho, heigh-ho, it's off to work (counties – DX – MARS – contests – and whatever else strikes my fancy) I go. Thanks for putting up with me for all these years as a District Director and Prez. Everyone enjoy the summer and the convention and many healthy and award-filled years to come. 73, 88, and Sayonara! Dave, the Lion, and the Dragon.



### New Members

<u>MARAC Number</u>	<u>Callsign</u>	<u>Name</u>
R4623	KI4MGF	Terri Lane
R4624	KE8DSU	Jolana Schenkel
R4625	KE8DST	Azura Hawkins
R4626	K4MI	Will Hracovina
R4627	WW8RT	Steve Bumgarner
R4628	AH6AX	Larry Wandel



**Dateline CW**

Ed, KN4Y

I am looking out the radio shack window at the 95 plus heat and watching the birds fight for a dip in the bird bath. My concentration is altered by the thump of a successful kamikaze squirrel as Gator's truck slides to a stop at the recycled railroad tie. He comes into the radio shack carrying the anticipated white cardboard container, "What's up Dude? Here, have a latte and a fresh éclair." I think the only happening better than this is being in the MARAC convention hospitality room. "Thanks Gator. When you get a chance, calculate the statistics for the Alabama QSO party." We nibble and sip in ecstasy.

Gator turns on the computer, I hand him a transgender memory device and

I turn on the radio to hear if any mobiles are running on the CW county hunter frequency. We sip our lattes. Suddenly Gator throws his hands up, "Okay Dude, listen up. You operated from 13 counties during the Alabama QSO party, made 586 QSOs, worked 42 States, 5 provinces and 9 DXCC multipliers. You traveled 649 miles, averaged 43 MPH and fuel consumed is 19.7 Miles per Gallon. You also stopped and ran at the National Park site, Horseshoe Bend, in Tallapoosa County."

"Dude that reminds me, I read about Bob's, N4CD, trips to run National Parks as part of the ARRL National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) program. How come you did not tell me about your trip to the National Park in Georgia and Alabama?" "Well Gator, Bob has exciting trips while my travels are boring." "I know that Dude, but something must have been interesting?" I give Gator a nasty glare, "Sit back Gator and listen with your mouth stuffed with an éclair." I lean back in my chair.

"I ran mobile in the Georgia QSO party when on the second day we stopped at the Andersonville National Historical Site in Macon County. I took some pictures of me and the van in front of the entrance sign. After an hour of operating on 20 and 40-meters I shut down and visited the site. There was no visitor sign in sheet but I did get a brochure stamped by the attendant on duty. This site identification number is NS02 and I entered the log into the LOTW. Time was of essence and we jumped into the van and continued mobile in the Georgia QSO party." I sip my latte.

"The next National Park was during the Alabama QSO party when I stopped at the Historical site Horseshoe Bend in Tallapoosa County. I stopped and took some pictures at the site entrance after which we went into the main building. I was wearing my ARRL NPOTA Tee shirt and the attendant on duty welcomed me and said I could operate from the site. The attendant said several Hams had operated previously at the site. I signed the visitor ledger then went out and operated from the parking lot for about an hour. Time was moving swiftly and it was time to get back operating in the Alabama QSO party. The site NPOTA identification number is MP05 and the log is in the LOTW. Now are you satisfied?"

Gator is not paying attention:

"Dude I notice you received a last county award from; Randy, AA8R, Ken, K0KV, Bill, K0DEQ, Mike, NF0N and that voyager Dude Jerry, W0GXQ. I told you operating mobile in a QSO party is the new wave. By the way, have you thanked them?" I sip my latte, "Not yet Gator, I have it on my appreciation

bucket list. Make yourself useful and check out my ARRL June VHF QSO party log.” Gator gives me the finger.”Not to change the subject Dude, but did you send in your support letter for Florida Bill H.R. 1501, the Amateur Radio Parity Act?” I give Gator the high sign, “Sure did, I sent in my response last week.” Gator is looking at the computer screen.

Gator sips his latte then snaps his finger to get my attention, “Dude I am impressed. You actually did good like a Ham should in the ARRL VHF QSO party. You got 23 new counties on 6-meters, awesome.” I smile big, “That is great, I have not worked many counties on six meters. Had I known the band was going to open everywhere I would have operated as a rover.” “Dude you also got your last Rhode Island county from KS1J, have you sent a LC yet?” “Yes, done did it. How about you check out my All Asian CW Contest, the Stew Perry Topband Challenge and The West Virginia QSO party” I lean back in my chair and finish off my latte. Gator starts laughing, “Dude you only made 47 QSO’s in the All Asian DX contest, must have been nappy time.” “No Gator, the band conditions were bad and not conducive to making Asian contacts Check the Stew Perry 160-meter contest. I had the same band condition problem, signals just above the noise level, finally decided to make 25 QSO’s and go to bed.”

Gator is mousing around, “Yes, I see you made only 25 QSO’s and you did not get one new county. I just looked at your West Virginia QSO party, .You made 9 QSO’s, fall asleep again?” I shake my head no, “I worked all the CW operators in West Virginia that do the QSO party, so I got about the same response as last year.”

Gator leans back in the chair, “Dude I wonder if anything exciting occurred at the MARAC convention? Have you heard anything?” I reach for another latte, “I heard, but not confirmed, that prior to the convention that...” Gator’s cell phone ring-a-dings, “Dang gum it, I have to dash off , with all that rain some of the dike drain lines are plugged with bird nests and hydraulic pressure is building. He is gone like cheap wine at the MARAC convention, I hear him yell, “We don’t putt on our greens, we boil them with salty fatback.”

I hear the printer stop and I remove the output; it is a list of stations that operated during June operating on the county hunter’s CW call frequencies. I read: AI5P, K0FG, K2HVN, K3IMC, K4YT, K8TE, K8ZZ, K9JWV, KA2LHO, KA4RRU, KB6UF, KC3X, KN4Y, N4CD, N9QS, NF0N, NU0Q, W0BH, W7FEN, W8JJ, WA3QNT, WA4PGM, AND WB0PYF.

Time is rolling along and here comes July the bang-bang month celebrating the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. Soon thereafter States adopted county designations and county hunting was born. Staring off this declaration month is the RAC Canada Day contest, the Venezuelan Independence Day contest, the Marconi Memorial HF contest. For the ambitious radio operator try the 10-10 International Spirit of 76 QSO party. Get ready for IARU HF World Championship, an exciting twenty-four hours. Are you a six meter buff? Operate in the CQ Worldwide VHF contest. (If band conditions are similar to the ARRL VHF contest, you will have a chance to get a few new counties on six meter.) Ending the month is the RSGB IOTA contest. (Islands on the Air). All this excitement, I wonder if is true that there is now a \$2.50 fine for beating up an American flag burner. Nap time.



## Birthdays

Roadrunner - Birthdays	
Call	Birthday Date
KB8TIN	Jul - 01
K4CQW	Jul - 01
W7AXY	Jul - 01
KB0LF	Jul - 01
AL7GY	Jul - 02
KF0E	Jul - 03
NC4J*	Jul - 03
KC7YE	Jul - 03
KA6BTU	Jul - 03
SM7ZDI	Jul - 04
N0AC	Jul - 04
W8WV	Jul - 04
W0ULU	Jul - 05
W1WLW	Jul - 05
K5UH	Jul - 05
NN5B	Jul - 06
W5LFO	Jul - 06
KE5WL	Jul - 06
AA9ZZ	Jul - 07
K10HF	Jul - 07
W5FHL	Jul - 07
VA3RJ	Jul - 07
K8EMS	Jul - 07
KU4QG	Jul - 08
KK0V	Jul - 08
KG7GV	Jul - 08
WA2GVI	Jul - 08
W7JY	Jul - 08
N4ANV	Jul - 08
KE5RH	Jul - 10
N4GQQ	Jul - 10
KT7G	Jul - 10
KM4RTR	Jul - 11
AA6JR	Jul - 11

Roadrunner - Birthdays	
Call	Birthday Date
N8GEQ	Jul - 11
WA7AIM	Jul - 11
AA4GL	Jul - 12
W8YL	Jul - 12
K4NMR	Jul - 12
WD8AYN	Jul - 12
N8OYY	Jul - 13
K9FA	Jul - 13
WF0B	Jul - 13
N5SGC	Jul - 13
KB4ET	Jul - 13
AF1HS	Jul - 13
WA4WIN	Jul - 13
WB0PYF	Jul - 14
AE5Q	Jul - 14
W5OBT	Jul - 14
VK4AAR	Jul - 14
KC3AD	Jul - 14
N3FC	Jul - 14
K1VMT	Jul - 14
KE6LF	Jul - 14
KB0QGT	Jul - 14
W0GYR	Jul - 14
K5TT	Jul - 15
N4XE	Jul - 15
KD1TH	Jul - 15
K8ZXY	Jul - 15
W4DRR	Jul - 16
KA1NX	Jul - 16
W2ARP	Jul - 16
K0UB	Jul - 16
KP4CZ	Jul - 17
AA9CW	Jul - 17
KT1M	Jul - 17

Roadrunner - Birthdays	
Call	Birthday Date
K6PJ	Jul - 17
WL7X	Jul - 17
K0SDA	Jul - 18
KE6US	Jul - 18
K5XY	Jul - 18
N6REL	Jul - 18
KI4W	Jul - 18
KC0ZU	Jul - 18
KB4UL	Jul - 18
K8MM	Jul - 19
WE7G	Jul - 19
W8YRB	Jul - 20
KW3H	Jul - 20
K5VYT	Jul - 20
K2RPM	Jul - 21
KB9NPO	Jul - 21
W4GNS	Jul - 21
KU4YM	Jul - 21
W4ZMB	Jul - 21
N8IPG	Jul - 21
KB9MGI	Jul - 22
KM8U	Jul - 22
AA1PR	Jul - 22
WB2ABD	Jul - 22
WU3H	Jul - 23
W4BOB	Jul - 23
W5JBP	Jul - 24
KV3D	Jul - 24
W5PKE	Jul - 24
KA3QLF	Jul - 24
KE4MW	Jul - 24
K9OC	Jul - 24
KF7PKL	Jul - 25
W4VIC	Jul - 25

## Roadrunner - Birthdays

Call	Birthday Date
WS9V	Jul - 25
N4IXV	Jul - 26
K1NIT	Jul - 26
WB7TAZ	Jul - 26
KE2EA	Jul - 26
VE4AE	Jul - 26
W5LOR	Jul - 26
KD8HB	Jul - 26
W9AAW	Jul - 26
K4BF	Jul - 26
W7SAR	Jul - 26
W6PXE	Jul - 27
W5DR	Jul - 27
KF4WC	Jul - 27
K9IA	Jul - 27
K4XD	Jul - 27
WB1EEN	Jul - 27
N8HAM	Jul - 27
NC1N	Jul - 27
KF0Q	Jul - 27
WA4LZI	Jul - 28
KF8UN	Jul - 28
W4ZAA	Jul - 28
N4AKP	Jul - 28
N5OAO	Jul - 28
K0HMC	Jul - 29
NOEHS	Jul - 29
N4AAT	Jul - 29
W4YDY	Jul - 29
WN8QII	Jul - 30
WD4OIN	Jul - 30
K9GTQ	Jul - 30
W6XLR	Jul - 30
NA5AR	Jul - 30

## Roadrunner - Birthdays

Call	Birthday Date
VE3EXT	Jul - 30
KY9Y	Jul - 30
KU9G	Jul - 30
KE5CJ	Jul - 30
N6UUG	Jul - 31
W6XJN	Jul - 31
W0FLZ	Jul - 31
KA9JAC	Jul - 31



## Awards

Awards Issued For June			
Call	Date	Award	Number
AJ5ZX	6/18/2016	Gemini - Jack Scroggins (W0SJE)	# 209 2nd Time Holders
K7TM	6/3/2016	USA - Single Band	# 30 - 20 Meters
WA3QNT	6/19/2016	USA - Single Band	# 31 - 20 Meters
WA6KHK	6/1/2016	Worked all Counties - 2nd Time	# 434
K5GE	6/5/2016	Worked all Counties - 9th Time	# 10
K3IMC	6/10/2016	Ran All USA	# 18

Roadrunner Issued For June				
Call	Date	Count	Award	
K5GE	6/11/2016	Last County Count 475	Last County Count 475	# 40
KB6UF	6/9/2016	Last County Count 1375	Last County Count 1375	# 2
AB7NK	6/9/2016	Last County Count 400	Last County Count 400	# 50
N0KV	6/9/2016	Last County Count 775	Last County Count 775	# 18
N8KIE	6/9/2016	Last County Count 1125	Last County Count 1125	# 6
K7SEN	6/9/2016	Last County Count 125	Last County Count 125	# 188
KB6UF	6/9/2016	Last County Count 1425	Last County Count 1425	# 2
KJ8W	6/11/2016	Last County Count 50	Last County Count 50	# 356
NX0X	6/11/2016	Last County Count 150	Last County Count 150	# 171
K3IMC	6/11/2016	Last County Count 550	Last County Count 550	# 32
K7SEN	6/25/2016	Last County Count 150	Last County Count 150	# 172
N0DXE	6/22/2016	Last County Count 300	Last County Count 300	# 72
WG9A	6/14/2016	Last County Count 450	Last County Count 450	# 43
AB7NK	6/16/2016	Last County Count 425	Last County Count 425	# 45
KJ5PQ	6/25/2016	Last County Count 750	Last County Count 750	# 20
N9QPQ	6/21/2016	Last County Count 1300	Last County Count 1300	# 4
K7TM	6/21/2016	Last County Count 175	Last County Count 175	# 142
K2HVN	6/21/2016	Last County Count 875	Last County Count 875	# 13
W7FEN	6/14/2016	Last County Count 675	Last County Count 675	# 23
AJ5ZX	6/25/2016	Last County Count 25	Last County Count 25	# 521
N0KV	6/22/2016	Last County Count 800	Last County Count 800	# 18



**Simply Voting**  
By Kerry W4SIG

**T**hanks to all members who participated in the first-ever Simply Voting MARAC elections! Our voting system was in need of an overhaul and this was deemed the best direction to take. This transition took quite a bit of work on the part of the Board and other volunteers, especially Lloyd, NX4W, who handled the brunt of the load (including the complaint department!). Indications are that it was a huge success with about 275 members participating, which is a very large number for an election with few contested positions. I think this is an indication that the membership is excited with the direction the club is going. From the feedback we have heard most everyone was very pleased with the smooth operation and ease of use of the new system. The board is also happy with the simple reporting that Simply Voting provides which makes it easy for the results to be quickly dispersed to the membership.

Again, thanks to all members who made this a success and a voting system we can all trust and rely upon!





**National - Last Call**  
**MARAC 2016 National, Memphis, TN**  
**48<sup>th</sup> Annual National Convention 2016 Registration**  
**Aug 1<sup>st</sup>- 4<sup>th</sup> Memphis, TN**

(Deadline for Early Registration Prize Drawing is May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CALLSIGN: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ST/PROV: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Convention registration fee: \$45.00  
(One Registration fee/family unit – Includes 1 prize ticket)

Name on Badge: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_ USACA# \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Name Badges (list info below) Total # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign \_\_\_\_\_ USACA# \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign \_\_\_\_\_ USACA# \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_

Relation: S-Spouse, D-Daughter, S-Son, M-Mother, F-Father, O-Other

**Photos Desired** (Circle ones you want)

Photos (8x10) Group – USA CA Holders – YL – CW Ops \_\_\_\_\_ x\$5= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Photos (emailed) Group – USA CA Holders – YL – CW Ops (Free/included w/registration)

**Extra Prize Tickets** (Increase your chances of winning the Big Prizes!)

Single Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ x \$1 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

12 Pack Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Events & Activities** (*Read detailed descriptions on following pages*)

Monday, Aug 1 – Check in and hospitality room

Tuesday, Aug 2 – Graceland & Memphis Music Guided BusTour: 8:30 AM-5:30 PM \_\_\_\_\_ x \$88= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Aug 2 – Do-It-Yourself Activities/Shopping, etc.

Aug 2 – Catered Memphis BBQ Dinner at hotel 6:00 PM \_\_\_\_\_ x \$8.50= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Wednesday, Aug 3 – CW Forum, Remote Op Forum, Antenna Forum, then free time for tourism

Thursday, Aug 4 – MARAC Board Meeting 10:00 AM, Digital Forum, Pictures 6:15 PM,

Banquet/Dinner Buffet 6:30 PM \_\_\_\_\_ x \$37= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Member Trivia, door prizes, main prizes, announcements

**Mail your registration form and check, made payable to “2016 MARAC Convention” to:**

Pat Mitchell, N0DXE

12200 Boothill Dr

Parker CO 80138

**Hotel Reservations:** (\$109 for King or Double)

Hyatt Place Germantown, 9161 Winchester Rd, Germantown TN 38138

Call 888-492-8847, and request Group Code: G-MARA , or online at:

[http://www.germantown.place.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html?corp\\_id=G-mara](http://www.germantown.place.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html?corp_id=G-mara)

Door prizes/Gift Exchange: Everyone please bring a gift valued at no more than \$15. These will be swapped via ticket drawing (no fee for a ticket)

**MARAC member trivia** – At registration we will ask you to describe a little-known fact about yourself. It doesn't have to be regarding county hunting, or even ham radio. Just something interesting we might want to know. We will have fun with this!

**Door Prizes** – Everyone please bring a gift valued at no more than \$15. These will be swapped via ticket drawing (no fee for a ticket).

**Main Prizes**- Everyone will get a ticket for the main prize drawings. Additional tickets can be purchased at the event or in advance at a discounted rate. Get your chances in on one of several mobile HF rigs, Signalink USB for digital operation, mobile antennas, and more!

## **DETAILS ON DAILY ACTIVITIES:**

### **Monday, Aug 1**

Check in- you know the drill. Check in to your room and check in with the MARAC registration table for your packet of info. We will have refreshments in the hospitality room.

At 8:00 PM I will make a short presentation in the hospitality room on the week's activities.

### **Tuesday, Aug 2**

Memphis Music Tour Day, 8:30AM to 5:30 PM – You don't want to miss this! Buses will pick us all up at 8:30AM and cruise us over to Elvis' Graceland. There we will take the Graceland Platinum Tour & Airplanes Tour. This includes:

- A multimedia ipad tour of Graceland mansion and grounds
- Graceland Archives Experience
- Self-guided tour of Elvis' two custom airplanes, the Lisa Marie and Hound Dog II
- Self-guided tour of Elvis' automobile museum, including his famous pink Cadillac
- Self-guided tour of I Shot Elvis: The Exhibit
- Self-guided tour of Elvis' Tupelo
- Self-guided tour of Elvis' Hawaii: Concerts, Movies, and More Exhibit

The average tour time 3-3.5 hours (more details can be found at [graceland.com](http://graceland.com))

We will then board the buses and have a box lunch on the way downtown for the Memphis Mojo Tour. These tours have been classified as rolling concerts, so you'll need your instrument (don't worry, they've got you covered) and a camera to capture the good times. A Beale Street professional musician will personally give you one of the more unique and entertaining views of our great city. The Home of the Blues comes alive on this city tour. The musicians play and sing selections from the city's rich musical heritage, while entertaining you with comedy, history, and behind-the-scenes stories of your favorite Memphis personalities.

Along the way, you will see:

- Beale Street
- Stax Studio
- The Lorraine Motel

- Cotton Row
- Peabody Hotel
- Overton Park
- Historic Central Gardens
- St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital
- Early homes of Elvis, B. B. King, and Johnny Cash
- Sun Studio (an inside tour of the "birthplace of rock 'n roll and original recording studio of Rock, country music, and rockabilly artists such as Elvis, Johnny Cash, Carl Perkins, Jerry Lee Lewis, Charlie Rich, Roy Orbison, and others)

We will then head back to the hotel for a catered Memphis style Corky's BBQ dinner (optional but HIGHLY recommended), casual style starting at 6:00 PM, including:

- BBQ Chicken
- Pulled Pork BBQ
- Baked Beans
- Cole Slaw
- Rolls, buns
- Iced tea, lemonade

### **Wednesday, Aug 3**

9:00 AM CW County Hunter Forum, Bob N4CD

10:00 AM Remote Operations Forum, Pete NN9K

10:45 AM Mobile Antenna Forum, Barry W9UCW

Free time for tourism:

- The hotel has a shuttle that can take you anywhere within a 5 mile radius. This will get you to two of the best shopping centers in town (The Shops of Saddle Creek and Carriage Crossing), and to dozens of great restaurants.
- Want to see the city without driving everywhere? Go downtown and get on board with the Memphis Hop. For one low price this shuttle makes stops at 10 Memphis attractions every hour. Spend as much time as you want in each attraction and catch the next bus to move on at your own pace. The Memphis Hop operates Tuesday - Sunday each week and daily passes are only \$22 for adults. Get the details at [MemphisHop.com](http://MemphisHop.com)
- American Dream Safari:



In the back of a 1955 Cadillac, Tad Pierson takes you on a journey like you've never experienced. His American Dream Safari company offers themed rides, including Juke Joint Full of Blues, a Delta Day Trip and a soul-soothing Road Therapy Tour. Tad has done personal tours for some very influential folks as the autographed door panels would indicate, and his rich historic and cultural knowledge are as vast as the Mississippi River is long. He can fit up to 5 people in his Cadillac. A three hour personalized tour for up to 5 passengers is \$200. Contact him directly for a reservation at 901-527-8870

☐ Memphis Uptown Carriage Rides



Spend any amount of time in downtown Memphis, and you'll surely come across a carriage. Saddle up for a horse-drawn carriage tour with the family or choose a romantic after-dinner trot exploring the heart of downtown. You'll get your own driver for these one-hour tours (with their ever-present canine companion) giving you a spin on the Memphis scene.

*Other Memphis Sites of Special Interest:*

Upon registration you will be sent a vacation guide of Memphis for your vacation planning. Some of special interest are:

☐ The Peabody Hotel – the South's Grand Hotel.



With a style and tradition befitting one of Memphis' grandest, most legendary hotels, The Peabody Memphis offers a magnificent bridge between the "Blues City's" celebrated past and cosmopolitan present. Nestled in the heart of downtown, this historic Forbes Four-Star, AAA Four-Diamond hotel offers a one-of-a-kind experience just blocks from Beale Street, the Memphis Rock 'n Soul Museum, the Gibson Guitar Factory, Fed-Ex Forum, Sun Studio, the Orpheum Theatre and the Memphis Cook Convention Center. Of special interest are the Peabody Ducks that parade off the elevator via a red carpet ceremony every day at 11AM and return at 5:00 PM to their rooftop palace. A real show!!! Arrive early to get a good view. More details at [peabodymemphis.com](http://peabodymemphis.com).

□ Memphis Pyramid Bass Pro Shop



An outdoors store unlike any other! It's a new national destination experience located inside the massive iconic Pyramid in Downtown Memphis, TN. This new, immersive retail experience offers something for everyone from the serious outdoor enthusiast to families looking to have fun. This is much more than just a store. Inside the expansive 535,000-square-foot pyramid are many experiences and features that offer something for everyone. In addition to a vast assortment of outdoor gear, the Pyramid includes a wilderness hotel called Big Cypress Lodge, nearly 600,000 gallons of water features, a cypress swamp with 100-foot-tall trees an 84,000-gallon alligator habitat, and underwater ecosystems including aquariums teeming with more than 1,800 fish, the interactive Ducks Unlimited Waterfowling Heritage Center, Uncle Buck's Fishbowl and Grill, a nautical-themed restaurant and bar with a saltwater aquarium and a 13-lane ocean-themed bowling alley, Beretta Fine Gun Center, the nation's tallest 28-Story Freestanding Glass Elevator and The Lookout, a breathtaking glass-floored cantilevering observation deck at the top of the 32-story steel Pyramid. With an array of retail, educational and fun attractions for guests of all ages, Bass Pro Shops at the Pyramid is one of the most dynamic, captivating retail adventures

in the world.

- National Civil Rights Museum- Loraine Motel



At the place of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s death in 1968 in Memphis, TN, the National Civil Rights Museum is a renowned educational and cultural institution. The Museum chronicles the American Civil Rights Movement with compelling presentations of iconic exhibits, oral histories of lesser-known civil rights foot soldiers, and visceral, in-the-moment experiences. Visitors will learn through emotionally charged, multi-user, multi-touch interactives, and a visually engaging, contemporary exhibit design that guides you through five centuries of history. More info at [Civilrightsmuseum.org](http://Civilrightsmuseum.org)

- Memphis Zoo



One of only a handful of American zoos to house Chinese Pandas. The Memphis Zoo, located in Midtown Memphis is home to more than 3,500 animals representing over 500 different species. Created in April 1906, the zoo has been a major tenant of Overton Park for more than 100 years.

- Stax Museum of American Soul Music.



The Stax Museum of American Soul Music, located at the original site of Stax Records in Memphis, Tennessee at 926 E. McLemore Avenue, is a 17,000 square-foot museum offering interactive exhibits, videos, vintage musical instruments used to create the Stax sound, stage costumes, photographs, records, and approximately 3,000 other items of memorabilia that tell the unique story, from beginning to present, of American soul music, particularly that of Stax Records and the Memphis Sound. Artists highlighted include Isaac Hayes, Otis Redding, the Staple Singers, the Bar-Kays, Booker T. & the MGs, Johnnie Taylor, Little Milton, Sam & Dave, Eddie Floyd, Rufus and Carla Thomas, Al Green, Aretha Franklin, Ike & Tina Turner, James Brown, Ray Charles, Sam Cooke, and hundreds of others. More info at [staxmuseum.com](http://staxmuseum.com)

□ Memphis Rock ‘N Soul Museum



Originally a Smithsonian Institute research project, it became their first permanent exhibition outside of New York and Washington DC. Inside, you'll find seven expansive galleries showcasing instruments, costumes, photographs, artifacts and exhibits like "Rural Music," "Coming to Memphis," "Sun Records & Youth Culture," "Soul Music" and "Social Changes" that take you through a timeline and tell the story of Memphis and its music history. More info at [memphisrocknsoul.org](http://memphisrocknsoul.org)



□ Beale Street



All music lovers as well as those just looking for a fun night out on the town will not want to pass up an opportunity to visit Beale Street. This 1.8 mi (2.9 km) stretch of restaurants, bars, and clubs is more than just a place to get a bite to eat. It is now considered “The Official Home of the Blues.”

From 1920 to 1940, artists descended on Beale Street and began to collaborate with one another, creating a new music style that blended smooth jazz with hard charging rock ‘n’ roll. This blend eventually gave birth to the blues, a new and distinctly American genre of music that gradually made its way into the American pop culture mainstream.

A visit to Beale Street today allows you to check out the blues clubs that served as the launching sites for some of the most famous American blues musicians of all time

□ Mud Island River Park



The Riverwalk is an exact scale model of the Lower Mississippi River flowing from its confluence with the Ohio River at Cairo, Illinois 954 miles south to the Gulf of Mexico. It features twenty cities that are mapped along the Riverwalk. Concrete wedges locate the main rivers flowing into the Mississippi or show river engineering structures such as floodways. There are four watershed walls which map the entire drainage area of the Mississippi River. The model empties into an acre size Gulf of Mexico. The park is designed using Corps of Engineers survey and navigational charts.



□ Pink Palace Museum



The Pink Palace Museum is one of the largest facilities of its kind in the Southeast. You can walk through a replica of the first self-service grocery store in the country, Clarence Saunders' Piggly Wiggly. Explore the cultural and natural history of the Mid-South through exciting exhibits, dioramas, and audio-visuials. Trace Memphis' development from the time of Spanish explorers through the Civil War and the yellow fever epidemics. Learn from the award-winning medical exhibit how health care grew to be Memphis' largest industry. You can also enjoy one of many IMAX movies or a show at the planetarium.

□ Memphis Botanic Garden



This 96-acre property includes 28 specialty gardens, which provide an in-depth look into various families of plants, flowers, and trees.

□ Dixon Gallery and Gardens



Art museum specializing in impressionist and post-impressionist painting, featuring work by Matisse, Renoir, Gauguin, Cassat and Turner

☐ Brooks Museum of Art



This museum houses an eclectic art collection from early Greek to modern. Brooks Museum is set in a beautiful park like setting. Every Wednesday is no admission charge

☐ Blues Hall of Fame



The Blues Hall of Fame honors those who have made the Blues timeless through performance, documentation, and recording. Since its inception in 1980, The Blues Foundation has

inducted new members annually into the Blues Hall of Fame for their historical contribution, impact and overall influence on the Blues. Members are inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame in five categories: Performers, Individuals, Classic of Blues Literature, Classic of Blues Recording (Song), Classic of Blues Recording (Album). Since 1980, The Blues Foundation has inducted 350+ performers, industry professionals, recordings and literature into the Blues Hall of Fame. Of the 130 performer inductees, 120 of them are African-American.

The most popular cruise is the 90-minute sightseeing cruise, which take's visitors a step back into Tennessee history. Historical commentary gives a comprehensive and interesting narrative of past and present Mississippi River life.

☐ Memphis Riverboat Rides



Authentic American Riverboat Cruises on the Mississippi River. Take a Paddlewheeler a few miles up and down the greatest river in the U.S.A., The “Mighty” Mississippi. This is a great way to see and learn a bit of Mississippi River history while visiting Memphis.

☐ Railroad and Trolley Museum



Located in historic Memphis Central Station, the Memphis Railroad and Trolley Museum features “hands on” activities for the kids, model train layouts, memorabilia and displays with emphasis on the role of railroads and trolleys the history of Memphis.

□ Hunt Phelan House



Built between 1828 - 1832, the home was host to many well known Tennesseans such as President Andrew Jackson, Jefferson Davis and General N.B. Forest. Confederate General Leonidas Polk planed the battle of Corinth in the home and General U.S. Grant later used the house as his headquarters where he devised the Vicksburg campaign. The home also served as a Union hospital. After the war, one of the first schools for freed slaves was built on the property by the Freedman’s Bureau.

**Thursday, Aug 4**

10:00 AM MARAC Board Meeting

11:00 AM Digital Forum, chaired by Matt W0NAC and AI N1API

6:15 Group Pictures at Germantown Country Club

Location: Germantown Country Club

1780 Kimbrough Rd

Germantown, TN 38138

(about 15 minutes from host hotel)

6:30 PM MARAC Banquet at Germantown Country Club

Dinner Buffet:

Dinner Salad-Garden Salad with Tomatoes, Julienne Carrots and Red Cabbage

Roast Top Round of Beef carving station

Salmon Florentine

Garlic Creamed Potatoes

Rice Pilaf

Green Bean Almondine

Medley of Vegetables (Carrots, Cauliflower & Broccoli)

Rolls and Butter

Desserts: Cheesecake with Raspberry Topping, Lemon Cake, Key Lime Pie

Coffee, Iced Tea

Video

Door prizes

Main prizes

Announcements and awards



### **Dave's Call**

Just a note about the August issue. Ellen and I will be leaving for Memphis on the 29th. If I can get everything done before that, the RR will go out before the National; otherwise, after.

See you there!

Dave, KU4YM

**Treasurer's Report (WONAC)  
May 2016\***

**Beginning Account Balances May 7, 2016** **\$30,503.15**

**Income:**

Money Market Interest	\$1.08	
Awards Manager Income	\$67.00	(See Note 2)
Membership Income	\$220.00	
Logger Distribution	<u>\$0.00</u>	
Total Income:		\$288.08

**May New Spotting Site/Logger II Expenses:**

Spotting Site Fixed Expenses (CHSpots.org)	\$0.00
Spotting Site Recurring Expenses (CHSpots.org)	\$0.00
Logger II Fixed Expenses	\$0.00
Logger II Recurring Expenses	\$0.00
EasyGCI MARAC.org Web Hosting	155.40

**May Other Expenses:**

Awards Manager Expenses	\$706.27	(See Note 2)
Office Expenses (Postage, Etc.)	<u>\$0.00</u>	
Total Expenses:		\$861.67

**May Net Income Less Expenses** **(\$573.59)**

**New Total Cash Balance ALL Accounts:** **\$29,929.56 #**

Checking Account Balance	\$2,825.66	
Money Market Account Balance	<u>\$27,103.90</u>	
<b>Total Cash All Accounts:</b>		<b>\$29,929.56</b>

## Note:

The following monies are not included in the account balances above:

Awards Manager's Funds	\$1,500.00
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\* Includes May Transactions posted through 06/16/2016

# From a balance sheet perspective, MARAC Total Funds at the end of May should be discounted by **\$5,967.50**. This amount is a Deferred Liability of award fees pre-paid by members. After discounting, our true (spendable) Cash Assets are **\$23,962.06**

Note 2 – Includes Awards Manager Combined Report submitted for Mar/Apr/May.

**Awards Manager's Report  
June 30, 2016**

Funds Balance May 31, 2016		<b>\$1,500.00</b>
Income	\$ 75.00	
		<u>\$ 75.00</u>
Expenses:		
Office supplies	\$ 0.00	
Plaque Suppliers	\$ 409.00	
Postage	\$ 143.55	
		<u>\$ 552.55</u>
Sent to Treasurer		\$ 67.00
Reimbursement received from Treasurer		\$ 552.55
Funds Balance June 30, 2016		<b>\$1500.00</b>
Members Funds on Hand May 31, 2016		\$ 5967.50
Income – Funds deposited or Used		<u>-100.00</u>
Total Funds on Hand for Members		\$ 5867.50



**Events**

- 7/2 FISTS SLOW SPRINT
- 7/4 10-10 QP
- 7/9 FISTS SPRINT
- 7/9 IARU WF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
- 7/16 NA RTTY QP
- 7/18 RUN4BACON

ONLY START DATE SHOWN

CLICK ON EVENT TO GO TO THAT WEB SITE

- 8/1 NATIONAL





**From your President Elect . . . . .**

I would like to take this opportunity to say “Thank You” for your positive support at the voting booth this past May. It will be my honor to serve the membership of MARAC as your president.

The outsourcing of our election and voting process to Simply Voting was a huge success and Lloyd, NX4W, did an outstanding job of putting all that together. Lloyd had about six weeks to work with the Simply Voting folks to learn what he needed to learn to ensure our General election process was smooth and seamless. But wait there’s more. About 5 or 6 days into the election month the Election Coordinator discovered there was a problem with the old MARAC voting process, leaving us no way to vote for the two County Hunter Of The Year awards. Lloyd and Simply Voting came to the rescue. Within an hour or two Lloyd had a second ballot defined in Simply Voting for the CHOTY ballots and emails were going out with User ID, a password and a link to notify all eligible MARAC voters to vote for CHOTY via Simply Voting. Well done Lloyd.

Even though the membership was not provided with any advance notification in the Road Runner regarding the new voting process (or even the need for outsourcing), there were 275 voters for the 2016 General election which eclipsed the 2015 election of 242 voters. Not only did the membership overwhelmingly cast a positive vote for each of the officers and District Director but the membership also overwhelmingly voted in favor of the two By-Law changes with > 85% wanting to see those changes. This tells me that the membership was pleased with the change of direction taken by the elections of 2015 and wants to continue in that direction.

One of the changes you’ll see coming is having regularly scheduled quarterly board meetings with the first one towards the end of August. Then, one in November, February, April and finally the Annual meeting in 2017. We will also try to improve communication and have more transparency in those meetings. By having quarterly meetings we should reduce the need for having Special meetings. However, we may still need to have Special meetings to address those unforeseen issues. I would also like to conduct those meetings via some sort of teleconference protocol such as Skype or UberConference or FreeConferenceCall rather than mIRC. I have seen way to much chaos and confusion using 20–25 year old technology. Using mIRC in the past has put a tremendous burden on Jeffery, AF3X, at the National meetings and it has left many of us confused as to what is really going on in the meeting. There has to be a better way.

Next month will be the 48<sup>th</sup> annual MARAC National Convention in Memphis. There will be lots of site seeing to do, forums to go to and cuisine to enjoy. But most important will be enjoying the company of old and new friends. If you haven’t been to a National or a Mini convention before, I highly recommend it.

So much more to say but then I would be accused of being long winded. So, if you’d like to hear more, let’s talk. Give me a call or send an email or over a cup of coffee in Memphis or at the Michigan Mini or at Dayton or on the road . . . . .

Hope to see you at the national in Memphis . . . . .  
73, Randy AA8R



**Awards Committee**

**These MARAC members are serving on the Awards Committee:**

**Awards Manager - Bob Devine (KC6AWX)**

**Phil Yasson ( AB7RW )**

**Dave Splitt ( KE3VV )**

**Kent Reinke ( KV7N )**

**Ed Palagyi ( KN4Y )**

**“Matt” Matthew (W0NAC)**

**Ron Clift (N5MLP)**

**Percy Ford (KA1JPR)**

**Lloyd Smith (NX4W)**

*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 25<sup>th</sup>!**

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**Board of Directors**

**President:** David Splitt, KE3VV, 6111 Utah Ave NW, Washington DC 20015, 301-300-2818, [davidsplitt@erols.com](mailto:davidsplitt@erols.com)

**Vice-President:** Terry Dummler, WQ7A, PO Box 500, Yelm, WA 98597, 360-894-3715, [wq7a@comcast.net](mailto:wq7a@comcast.net)

**Secretary:** Jim Grandinetti, KZ2P, 2690 Bohicket Rd, Johns Island, SC 29455, 843-323-8385, [k2jg@comcast.net](mailto:k2jg@comcast.net)

**Treasurer:** Matt Matthew, W0NAC, 17525 Wilde Ave, Unit 108, Parker CO 80134, 303-799-3658, [w0nac@comcast.net](mailto:w0nac@comcast.net)

**Great Lakes Director:** Timothy Eklin, W8JJ, 7398 Waterfall Dr, Grand Blanc, MI 48439, 810-603-2801, [w8jj@comcast.net](mailto:w8jj@comcast.net)

**North Central Director:** Mike Nickolaus, NF0N, 316 East 32nd St, South Sioux City, NE 68776, 402-494-6070, [nf0n@arrl.net](mailto:nf0n@arrl.net)

**Northeast Director:** Al Kaiser, N1API, 194 Glen Hills Rd, Meriden CT 06451, [n1api@cox.net](mailto:n1api@cox.net)

**South Central Director:** Barry Mitchell, N0KV, 12200 Boothill Dr, Parker, CO 80138, 303-841-6510, [n0kv@earthlink.net](mailto:n0kv@earthlink.net)

**Pacific Director:** Robert T. Devine, KC6AWX, 407 Alameda Del Prado, Novato, CA 94949-6302, 415-883-8980, [kc6awx@marac.org](mailto:kc6awx@marac.org)

**Southeast Director:** Kerry Long, W4SIG, 1854 Newton Nook, Collierville, TN 38017, 901-331-1881, [kerrylong@comcast.net](mailto:kerrylong@comcast.net)

**Immediate Past President:** Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, 21175 FM2556, Santa Rosa, TX 78593 1-956-202-3373, [joycenul@aol.com](mailto:joycenul@aol.com)

**Awards Manager:** Robert T. Devine, KC6AWX, 407 Alameda Del Prado, Novato, CA 94949-6302, 1-415-883-8980, [kc6awx@marac.org](mailto:kc6awx@marac.org)

**Appointees**

**Historian:** Gary Beam, K4EXT, 195 Nanny Goat Hill Rd, Elizabethton, TN 37643, [ch2@k4ext.com](mailto:ch2@k4ext.com)

**Newsletter Editor:** Dave Hyatt, KU4YM, 159 Schooner Bend Ave, Summerville, SC 29483, 843-442-8666, [dhhyatt@ieee.org](mailto:dhhyatt@ieee.org)

**Sunshine Coordinator:** Pat Reiner, KM6QF, 16931 Aldon Rd, Encino, CA, 91436, 213-999-0100, [lovedoxies@aol.com](mailto:lovedoxies@aol.com)

**Webmaster:** Jeff Napier, AF3X, 3031 Tyler Jacob Way, Knoxville, TN 37931, 760-590-0797, [napierv6@comcast.net](mailto:napierv6@comcast.net)

**Custodian, Club Call, K9DCJ:** Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, 21175 FM2556, Santa Rosa, TX 78593 1-956-202-3373, [joycenul@aol.com](mailto:joycenul@aol.com)

**Election Coordinator:** Kent Reinke, KV7N, 1826 East 4500 North, Buhl ID 83316, 208-543-6083, [kr@gei.net](mailto:kr@gei.net)

**MARAC General Counsel:** Bill Morgan, K0DEQ, 12012 County Rd 3000, Rolla, MO 65401, 573-465-5405, [k0deq@arrl.net](mailto:k0deq@arrl.net)

**Computer Data Manager:** Gene A Olig Sr, KD9ZP, W 4325 4th St Rd, Fond du Lac, WI 54937, 920-923-0130, [kd9zp@att.net](mailto:kd9zp@att.net)

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