



THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

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



Volume XLVI

December 2016

Number 12

President's QTC

Hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving. Pattie & I did, and now we are looking forward to Christmas.

November's voting process was another success thanks to our Election Coordinator Don, K7DM, and Simply Voting. All three by-law changes were widely accepted by the membership. Thank you for taking the time to vote.

The quarterly board meeting was held Wednesday, November 16th. Look for the meeting minutes elsewhere in this issue of the Roadrunner. Following are a few of the issues we addressed:

- **Merit Service Awards:** Two service awards were unanimously approved; one for Gary, K4EXT, for his many years of service as MARAC's historian, and one for Jeffrey, AF3X, for his service as MARAC's webmaster. We appreciate their contributions.
- **Awards Secretary:** The Awards Secretary decided to step down for personal reasons. Charlie, N2JNE, filled a critical position when the prior Awards Manager resigned. He saw the MARAC awards program through a difficult period and the huge effort he made is greatly appreciated. The new MARAC Awards Secretary is Pattie, W8TAX. Because she has many years of data processing experience the training period should be very short. By the time you read this article you should be able to submit all your award applications.
- **Webmaster:** Dave, KW1DX, is MARAC's new MARAC Webmaster. Jeffery, AF3X, has been unavailable since prior to the 2016 National Convention for personal reasons. For the past four months Dave, KW1DX, has been acting as Webmaster in Jeffery's absence and has provided some very valuable exper-

Contents

Awards Committee	9
Board of Directors Meeting	6
Dateline CW	3
Dave's Call	12
Election Results	8
Events	12
President's QTC	1
Scottie, N4AAT	11
Treasurer's Report (W7OLY)	10

tise through a period of many required and long overdue changes. We are lucky to have Dave.

- **2017 National Convention:** The 2017 MARAC National Convention will held in Colorado Springs, CO Sept 25, 26 & 27 hosted by N0DXE and N0KV. Get your mobile set up all tuned up for another Colorado Antenna Shootout provided by W0QE and N0KV. More information will be posted on the MARAC web site later from Pat & Barry.

The next board meeting will be next February and I hope you can join us on Uberconference.

If you have any questions or suggestions send them to your District Director or to me or you can catch me in the W6RK Chat room.

Merry Christmas to all.....



Dateline CW
Ed, KN4Y

Though CW county hunting be madness, yet there is a method in it.

I have the Christmas spirit as I am hippy hopping on my way to the radio shack, but first I make a stop at the Black Coffee Bean coffee shop and give Gator's girlfriend (he say nay nay) a Christmas present for making our hot lattes hot. This is heavy jacket weather, a trait common to this area during the month of December. I am amazed this year is almost over and I with a new President Elect enter the year 2017. I arrive in due time and enter the radio shack and quickly move the thermostat up a degree, actually several degrees. I turn on the radio and listen for a QRZ from Bob, N4CD, operating in a National Park, the band is quiet. I glance at the calendar; it seems I just celebrated New Year, and now Christmas is upon us. It is true the older one gets the faster the finger of time writes and moves on.

I am jolted back to reality when I hear the roar of Gator's 4x4 coming down the driveway, stops and backs up against the recycled railroad tie. I think to myself that is a unusual maneuver then I notice on the back bumper the bright yellow bumper sticker with black lettering. I read:

I ONLY WORK CW IN COUNTIES ON DAYS THAT HAVE A 'Y'.

I am laughing hilariously as Gator enters the shack carrying the anticipated white cardboard container, "Where did you get that bumper sticker?" I grab a tissue and blot the tears from my eyes. "Gator you made my day." Gator is also laughing as he sets the container on the desk, opens the top and hands me a latte. "I knew you might enjoy the bumper sticker. I stopped at that new sign shop in the Quranic Plaza and Aabazri printed it for me. By the way I thought you would be putting up the exterior Christmas lights." I point to boxes on the floor, "I just retrieved the lights out of the storage locker and plan to string them up tomorrow." Gator turns on the computer and we sip our lattes, which seem hotter, the computer screen lights up.

"Dude I notice you operated in something called the CWT, what the heck is that?" I sip my latte, "Well Gator I am now a bona fide CWop member and I enjoy participating in one of the three scheduled one hour CW sessions held on Wednesday of every week. It is fun and provides me the on the air opportunity to work others up at that time and each session is quick lasting one hour. I like to operate on 10 or 15-meters in hopes of getting a new county. After the time change it is breakfast time during the first session,

so I operate only the second session. I am bowling when the third session starts.” Gator shakes his head in agreement, as he looks at the computer.

“Dude I see you again operated in the Bulgarian DX contest and I also notice this year you worked other stations and not just the LZ stations.” Not having asbestos lips I carefully sip my hot latte, “Yes Gator, the band conditions from here to there were lousy, so I worked any station calling CQ LZ.” Gator looks at the computer screen, “I see you worked 27 Bulgarian Districts and 22 ITU zones, is this a good score?” I shake my head, “No Gator I did not operate full time.” Gator is not paying attention as he finishes his latte.

Gator is looking at the computer screen. “Dude I read that MARAC has a new Awards Secretary Pattie, W8TAX.” I asked innocently, “Is that a YL or OM?” Gator laughs, “I don’t know but Patty is a YL so this must be a OM. Dude I also see that Dave, KW1DX is the new MARAC webmaster, have you worked Dave on the air?” “Yes I have a few times on CW. Do you know who would make a good webmaster?” “No!” “Spiderman.” Gator throws his empty paper cup at me.”

Gator is looking at the computer screen, he turns toward me with a very sad look on his face, “Dude, I just read that friend of yours, Scottie, N4AAT, has passed into the heavenly county.” Tears come to my eyes, “Yes Gator, please bow your head. I recite from Isaiah: Those who walk uprightly enter into peace; they find rest as they lie in death.”

Gator’s cell phone goes CQ, CQ, CQ, “Sorry to leave in sorrow but there is a group of ministers at the office wanting to discuss using my elixir instead of wine during communion.” I stand at the door as he roars out of sight, I hear him yell; “Why is the third hand on a watch called a second hand?” I shut the door and turn around when I hear the printer start then stop. I get the printout; it is a list of mobiles heard on the county hunters CW call frequencies.

I read: K0DEQ, K0FG, K2HVN, K3IMC, K8ZZ, KA2LHO, KA4RRU, KB0BA, KB6UF, KC3X, KN4Y, KS5A, N0KV, N2MH, N4CD, N4JT, N4ON, N4UEZ, N4UP, N9JF, N9QS, W0IS, W2WC, W3DQT, W4SIG, and W9MSE.

December the last month of this year starts with the ARRL 160-meter CW contest followed by the ARRL CW and phone 10-meter Contest, I hope the ten meter gods are county hunters and read this notice. For some unknown reason there are no State QSO parties, there is, however, the AWA Bruce Kelly 1929 QSO party. The operators use home brewed transmitters from the 1929 era to make a cacophony of whooping, chirping, buzzing, clicking, drifting, swishing and warbling signals. Perhaps enjoy some CW and

Sideband fun with the great Canadian operators in their RAC Winter Contest, and for DX the Croatian CW contest. Maybe operate in the Stew Perry CW Topband Challenge on of course 160-meters. Perhaps you can work Santa Claus in the ARRL CW Rookie Roundup. Breaker, breaker this is elf calling, OOPs wrong band. Next on to 2017. But first a nap.

As Christmas travelers roam the counties with joy and merriment,
as the CW signal echoes from all the receivers, truly a gift from God.
Gator and I wish you a Joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Board of Directors Meeting

Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club (MARAC)

Wednesday November 16, 2016

Thanks to W4SIG

President Randy Hatt (AA8R) welcomed everyone to the BOD meeting and called the meeting to order at 0001z on Nov 17, 2016.

Board Members present via Uberconference:

Vice-President – Chuck Secrest (NM1G)

Treasurer – Aubrey Mansfield (W7OLY)

Northeast Director – Al Kaiser (N1API)

South Central Director – Barry Mitchell (N0KV)

Southeast Director – Kerry Long (W4SIG)

Great Lakes Director – Tim Eklin (W8JJ)

North Central Director – Mike Nickolas (NF0N)

Members not present:

Secretary – Terry Dummler (WQ7A)

Pacific Director – Paul Nelson (N7JPF)

Motion by Al (N1API), to accept the minutes of the previous BOD meeting as published. Seconded by Aubrey(W7OLY). Motion passed. Vote is Unanimous.

Motion by Barry (N0KV), to approve the Treasurer’s Report as published. Seconded by Tim (W8JJ). Motion passed. Vote is Unanimous.

Old Business

Ron (N5MLP), the Awards Manager, reports that he is close to completing his Awards Committee. Four district positions are filled and the rest should be complete by the end of the month.

New Business

Motion by N0KV

Motion to remove Jeff (AF3X) as MARAC Webmaster and replace with Dave (KW1DX). Although Jeff has done a fine job his work demands are keeping him from having enough time to continue on as Webmaster. Vote is Unanimous

Motion by W7OLY

Motion to approve a MARAC Service Award for Jeff AF3X for his service as MARAC webmaster. Vote is unanimous.

Motion by W8JJ

Motion to approve the proposal by Pat, N0DXE, to host the 2017 MARAC National Convention in Colorado Springs, CO from September 25-27, 2017 at the Hotel Elegante. After a presentation by Pat this was voted upon. Vote is unanimous.

Motion by N1API

Motion to approve the standard \$4,000 seed money for the 2017 MARAC National Convention in Colorado Springs, CO. Vote is unanimous.

Motion by W7OLY

Motion to appoint Pat, W8TAX, as the new Awards Secretary. The current Awards Secretary, Charlie, N2JNE, had resigned. Vote is unanimous.

Motion by W8JJ

Motion to approve funds of \$1,500 to W8TAX for Awards Secretary expenditures. Funds already sent to former Awards Secretary, N2JNE, will be returned when it is determined that no additional business is necessary from his location; probably early December. Vote is unanimous.

Motion by N0KV

Motion to approve a MARAC Service Award for Gary, K4EXT, for his years of service as MARAC Historian. Vote is unanimous.

Motion by N0KV

Motion to deny unsubstantiated and unreceipted expense reimbursement request by former Secretary, KZ2P. It was discussed that these claimed expenses were never approved by a MARAC board, no receipts were submitted, and fiscal years had passed. Vote passed with 6 in favor, 1 abstention.

Motion by N0KV

Motion to deny request from KA1JPR for detailed accounting concerning the 2016 National MARAC Convention in Memphis, TN for the purposes of his own personal audit. It was discussed that this was unprecedented and unnecessary, especially for a convention triple the size of the prior two years, yet only cost MARAC a little over \$300 compared to losses of close to \$3,000 the prior two years of much smaller size. A full report of the expenses had been submitted to the board and accepted by the Treasurer some time ago. Vote passed with 6 in favor, 1 abstention.

Discussion on whether or not bylaws should be changed to select a Member at Large as a MARAC Board voting member in lieu of the current Past-President position, which is currently vacant. No motion made and no action taken.

Motion by W8JJ

Motion to approve see money of \$600 for W8TVT and K8ZZ for the Michigan Mini 2017 Convention. Vote is unanimous.

Discussion of recent By Law Change voting. MARAC Election Coordinator, K7DM, reports that all changes were approved by over 90% of members voting.

Next Board Meeting date was set for Feb 15 at 7:00PM EST.

Motion by W7OLY. Motion to adjourn meeting at 0130Z Nov 17, 2016. Vote is unanimous.

Election Results

November Bylaws Change

Turnout: 214 (59.8%) of 358 electors voted in this ballot.

Motion to change Articles I and II of the Bylaws

YES 199 (93.9%)

NO 13 (6.1%)

VOTER SUMMARY

Total 214

Abstain 2 (0.9%)

Motion to change Article V of the ByLaws

Yes 193 (92.3%)

No 16 (7.7%)

VOTER SUMMARY

Total 214

Abstain 5 (2.3%)

Motion to change Article VI of the Bylaws

Yes 188 (91.3%)

No 18 (8.7%)

VOTER SUMMARY

Total 214

Abstain 8 (3.7%)

Don McMinds K7DM

MARAC Elections Coordinator

Awards Committee

Awards Committee

Awards Committee Reorganization Status:

The positions of committee members representing each of the MARAC districts have all been filled. The new members are listed below for their respective districts:

District:	Representative on Awards Committee:
Great Lakes	Robert Woody – N8KIE
North Central	Tony Mazzocco – WA9DLB
North East	David Pyle – KW1DX
Pacific	Robert Hallock – K7TM
South Central	Bob Voss – N4CD
South East	Jack Jacobs – WD4OIN

I thank all of the above members for agreeing to serve the club in these positions and I thank others who volunteered as well. Committee meetings will begin in the near future.

Status of Awards Operations

During the month of November, N2JNE resigned his position as Awards Secretary. However, Pattie Hatt – W8TAX volunteered for the position and was confirmed by the Board of Directors on November 16th during the quarterly board meeting. The computer equipment and records have been transferred to Pattie and she recently reported that:

- The bank account has been set up and a \$1,500 check from the treasurer has been deposited
- LC1 and LC2 awards that were outstanding when the computer was transferred have been processed
- The application form for LC1 and LC2 awards has been reactivated on the website
- New submissions are being processed, certificates are being created, and plaques are being ordered

I thank Pattie for taking this responsibility and look forward to working with her to support the awards function for MARAC.



Treasurer's Report (W7OLY)
October 2016*

Beginning Account Balances October 22, 2016 **\$33,869.27**

Income:

Money Market Interest	\$0.00	
Awards Manager Income	\$60.00	
Misc. Income	\$0.00	
Membership Income	\$160.00	
Logger Distribution	<u>\$0.00</u>	
Total Income:		\$220.00

October 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	

**October Other Expenses:**

Awards Secretary Expenses	\$82.58	
Misc. Expenses	\$0.00	
Office Expenses (Postage, Etc.)	<u>\$6.45</u>	

Total Expenses: \$89.03

October Net Income Less Expenses **\$130.97**

New Total Cash Balance ALL Accounts: **\$34,000.24**

Checking Account Balance	\$6,890.62
Money Market Account Balance	<u>\$27,109.62</u>
Total Cash All Accounts:	\$34,000.24

* Includes November Transactions posted through 11/6/2016

* The \$1,500.00 Awards Secretary Funds are not included in the above balance.

From a balance sheet perspective, MARAC Total Funds at the end of September should be discounted by **\$6,160.15**. This amount is a Deferred Liability of award fees pre-paid by members. After discounting, our true (spendable) Cash Assets are **\$27,840.09**.

Scottie, N4AAT***“The Final Inspection”***

**The policeman stood and faced his God,
Which must always come to pass.
He hoped his shoes were shining,
Just as brightly as his brass.**

**“Step forward now, policeman.
How shall I deal with you?
Have you always turned the other cheek?
To My church have you been true?”**

**The policeman squared his shoulders and said,
“No, Lord, I guess I ain’t,
Because those of us who carry badges
can’t always be a saint.**

**I’ve had to work most Sundays,
and at times my talk was rough,
and sometimes I’ve been violent,
Because the streets are awfully tough.**

**But I never took a penny,
That wasn’t mine to keep...
Though I worked a lot of overtime
When the bills got just too steep.**

**And I never passed a cry for help,
Though at times I shook with fear.
And sometimes, God forgive me,
I’ve wept unmanly tears.**

**I know I don’t deserve a place
Among the people here.
They never wanted me around
Except to calm their fear.**

**If you’ve a place for me here,
Lord, It needn’t be so grand.
I never expected or had too much,
But if you don’t....I’ll understand.**

**There was silence all around the throne
Where the saints had often trod.
As the policeman waited quietly,
For the judgment of his God.**

**“Step forward now, policeman,
You’ve borne your burdens well.
Come walk a beat on Heaven’s streets,
You’ve done your time in hell.”**

Author Unknown (Contributed by Mark KM6HB)

Events

- 12/2 ARRL 160M CW
- 12/4 10M RTTY
- 12/10 ARRL 10M CW SSB
- 12/11 CQC GRT COLO CW SNOWSHOE RUN
- 12/18 ARRL ROOKIE CW
- 12/19 RUN4BACON
- 12/25 CHRISTMAS
- 1/1 STRAIGHT KEY NIGHT

ONLY START DATE SHOWN

CLICK ON EVENT TO GO TO THAT WEB SITE



Dave's Call

Wow! More changes in the evolution of MARAC!

I hope you don't mind breaking from the past and including a memorial a well known and loved silent key, Scottie N4AAT.

The entire staff (Ellen, Maddie and Willow) and I wish all y'all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Awards Committee

These MARAC members are serving on the Awards Committee:

Awards Manager - Ron Clift (N5MLP)

Robert Woody - N8KIE

Tony Mazzocco -WA9DLB

David Pyle - KW1DX

Robert Hallock - K7TM

Bob Voss - N4CD

Jack Jacobs - WD4OIN

The County Line Roadrunner
MARAC Secretary
PO Box 500
Yelm, WA 98597

“A Road Runner Is A Very Fast Bird”

Monthly Deadline for Articles is the 25th!

Board of Directors

President: Randy Hatt, AA8R, PO Box 427, Grant MI 49327, 517-812-9468, aa8r@aol.com

Vice-President: Chuck Secrest, NM1G, 14 Anthony Dr, North Kingstown, RI 02852, 401-484-4871, chuck@nm1g.com

Secretary: Terry Dummler, WQ7A, PO Box 500, Yelm, WA 98597, 360-894-3715, wq7a@comcast.net

Dues with an Electronic copy of the Newsletter copy are \$10.00 per year, check or money order. Dues are also available via PayPal to WQ7A@ARRL.NET

Treasurer: Aubrey Mansfield, W7OLY, 7717 Forest Park Dr, Olympia, WA 98502, 703-286-9987, w7oly@comcast.net

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

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

Northeast Director: Al Kaiser, N1API, 194 Glen Hills Rd, Meriden CT 06451, n1api@cox.net

South Central Director: Barry Mitchell, N0KV, 12200 Boothill Dr, Parker, CO 80138, 303-841-6510, n0kv@earthlink.net

Pacific Director: Paul Nelson, N7JPF, 3013 W. 10th St, The Dalles, OR 97058, 509-698-6227, n7jpf-paul@charter.net

Southeast Director: Kerry Long, W4SIG, 1854 Newton Nook, Collierville, TN 38017, 901-331-1881, kerrylong@comcast.net

Immediate Past President: Vacant

Appointees

Awards Manager: Ron Clift, N5MLP, 10719 Lake Windcrest Dr, Magnolia, TX 77354

Awards Secretary: Pattie Hatt, W8TAX, PO Box 427, Grant MI 49327, 517-812-9468, marac.awards@gmail.com

Historian: Gary Beam, K4EXT, 195 Nanny Goat Hill Rd, Elizabethton, TN 37643, ch2@k4ext.com

Newsletter Editor: Dave Hyatt, KU4YM, 159 Schooner Bend Ave, Summerville, SC 29486, 843-442-8666, dhyatt@homesc.com

Sunshine Coordinator: Pat Reiner, KM6QF, 16931 Aldon Rd, Encino, CA, 91436, 213-999-0100, lovedoxies@aol.com

Webmaster: David Pyle, KW1DX, 26 Van Dyke Rd, Hollis, NH 03049, 603-321-9748, dave@kw1dx.com

Custodian, Club Call, K9DCJ: Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, 21175 FM2556, Santa Rosa, TX 78593, 956-202-3373 joycenul@aol.com

Election Coordinator: Don McMinds, K7DM, 535 E Chance Ala Mer NE, Ocean Shores, WA 98569, 360-289-0520, k7dm@centurylink.net

MARAC General Counsel: Bill Morgan, K0DEQ, 12012 County Rd 3000, Rolla, MO 65401, 573-465-5405, 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