



# THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

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## President's QTC

Where did 365 days go....Wow!

Here we are at the end of 2016 and the beginning of a brand new year full of great possibilities. I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and are recovering from a great New Year's party.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to all the 2016 MARAC volunteers for their hard work and the effort they have made during the past year on behalf of the membership:

AB7RW, AF3X, Amy Long, K0DEQ, K2MF, K3IMC, K4EXT, K7DM, K7TM, K8ZZ, KC6AWX, KD9ZP, KE3VV, KK7X, KM6QF, KN4Y, KU4YM, KV7N, KW1DX, KZ2P, N0DXE, N0KV, N1API, N2JNE, N4CD, N5MLP, N7JPF, N8KIE, NF0N, NM1G, NX4W, W0NAC, W3DYA, W4SIG, W5UGD, W6RK, W7OLY, W8JJ, W8TAX, W8TVT, WA9DLB, WB9NUL, WD4OIN, WQ7A AND WY0A.

So far we have two conventions to look forward to in 2017: The 10<sup>th</sup> annual Michigan Mini in Traverse City, MI April 27 & 28 and the 49<sup>th</sup> MARAC National Convention in Colorado Springs, CO Sept 25, 26 & 27. Looking forward to seeing you at both of these events.



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**Dateline CW**

Ed, KN4Y

Tis a happy county hunter to be listed repeatedly on a completed CQ award submission.

I am going to digress for a moment, maybe a few, to celebrate my eighty-fifth birthday. I was one of a group that arrived on earth during the great depression era. I have been the sole caretaker for my wife of 49 years for the past five years from the ravages of Dementia, a condition I wish on no one. This has curtailed my daily county hunting activities. I hope, however, to continue going mobile in QSO parties.

Early last month I had a root canal and the Amoxicillin did not agree with my system and I went into the hospital weak, disorientated, confused and looking at the tunnel. But with God's intervention the tests were satisfactory and I was eventually released back to the wild. This article will be shorter in length as I regain my strength. I could not bowl in the Florida State Games and defend my first place singles in my age category. I pray God willing I will bowl in next year State Senior games.

(Now back with Gator)

Gator just arrived in the radio shack with hot lattes, which seem hotter than usual. Gator hands me a hot latte, "Dude, just when are you planning take down the radio shack exterior Christmas lights, the Christmas holiday is history?" I laugh, "I may just shut them off until next year." Gator shakes his head, "I can take a hint. I will help you to take the lights down and put them in storage until next year. Almost forgot, on the way in I retrieved this envelope from the mail box." Gator hands me a large brown envelope, I open the envelope with my trusty utility knife, "This is great, I have received a certificate from the Tennessee Contest Group for first place in Florida, operating low power using CW during The Tennessee QSO Party." I smile big like a county hunter in a hospitality room, "Turn on the computer and check my ARRL 10-meter contest log?" Gator turns on the computer as we sip our lattes.

We sit in silence and sip out hot lattes. Gator is mousing the computer and grunts, "Dude you only made 82 QSO's in the ARRL 10-meter contest, fall asleep again?" I shake my head, "Almost Gator, I could not get into calling and only did some S&P; I could not get into a rhythm." Gator shakes his head, "you did get a new county on ten meters. Not a total loss" "I was able to get a score for the Florida Contest Group total. Here is a transgender memory stick with three contests, check it out." I finish my latte and get another. Gator is goosing the mouse.

Gator leans back in the chair, “Okay Dude, you worked the RAC Canada Winter Contest and I see you only worked Canada stations, any real reason?” “Yes Gator, it is a Canada contest so I work only Canadian stations. I enjoy listening to a good CW signal.” Gator shakes his head as if he understood the rationale.”By the way what is RAC?” “That is, the Radio Amateurs of Canada.” “That makes sense.” Gator goes back to the computer as we enjoy our lattes.

Gator turns around in his seat, “This is neat, you worked the Croatian CW Contest, but you did not log many contacts.” “Yes Gator the band condition from there to here was not favorable. I listened a lot and worked all Croatian stations I heard, which you see was not a large number.” I sip my fresh latte when I hear Gator laugh. “This is funny Dude you worked the Stew Perry Topband Challenge and only made thirty QSOs. Did you pass out from exertion?” “You laugh Gator, but I got very exhausted and could not concentrate, so shut down and went to beddy bye.” Gator is laughing as he mouses around.

“Dude I just clicked on the MARAC web page and you have been replaced as a member of the Awards Committee by Jack, WB4OIN.” Yes Gator it was a great experience, but time for new ideas. When you replace good with superb all gain.” “Dude did you know the 2017 MARAC National Convention will be held in Colorado Springs, CO. I bet there will be a new definition for the hospitality room,” I laugh, “That is Ironic Gator, the first MARAC convention I attended was in Colorado, way back when you were a gleam in a papa gator’s eye.” Gator gives me the finger.

Gator’s cell phone goes CQ, CQ, CQ, “Sorry to leave Dude a dead reindeer was found in the back forty and they are checking to determine if it is one of Santa’s reindeer.” I stand at the door as he roars out of sight, I hear him yell;

“I am getting old because I wake up with that morning-after feeling, and I didn’t do anything the night before.” 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 during December.

I read: AF5CC, K0DEQ, K0FG, K0MAF, K2HVN, K2MF, K8ZZ, KA2LHO, KA3QLF, KA4RRU, KC3X, KC7YE, KO1U, N0KV, N2MH, N4CD, N4JT, N4UP, N7IV, N8JJ, NF0N, NU0Q, W3DQT, W4SIG, and WA4UNS,

It is official, 2017 has arrived, with or without permission. It is a known fact that the

amateur radio community is getting older. So plan to participate in the ARRL Kids Day Contest. It will be rewarding and insure the future of Amateur Radio. There is also the North American CW QSO party; you will need to know your name in this contest exchange. There is the LZ Open CW Contest, a must for operators who love to send numbers. There is also the Hungarian DX contest, my Hungarian Grandmother will be observing this gathering. If you missed the CW North American QSO party you can do the Sideband contest. But you still have to know your name. For the VHF enthusiastic there is the ARRL January VHF Contest, you can get some naps in during this contest. The only State QSO Party this month is Montana with 56 counties up for grabs. Really, operating mobile in Montana in January? There is also the CQ 160-meter CW Contest for the insomniac. Rounding out the month is the Winter Field Day, I plan to operate with the Sportsman's Paradise ARC using the club call K4WAK. Remember the Kids Day Contest. Nap time.



**MARAC 2017 Elections Announcement**  
**MARAC VOTING INFORMATION**

**R**emember that MARAC is now using a web-based system called Simply Voting for all of our voting needs. You will receive an email from Simply Voting containing instructions on voting and a password unique to you at the start date of the voting window. This e-mail provides two links for you to get to the voting page. The first requires you to enter your user ID and password, but the second takes you directly there, thus the second method shown is the simplest to use.

Please note that we no longer accept e-mail or regular mail ballots.

If you are a new member or are renewing following a lapse in membership, you are *not* eligible to submit nominations or vote in an election until the first day of the month following receipt of initial payment of dues and valid membership application to the Secretary of MARAC. Members maintaining uninterrupted membership status are not restricted from nominating or voting in the current month. If you are unsure of your membership status, please go to the MARAC County Hunters Database web site at

<http://marac.org/database>

Enter your call in Call Lookup and click Go to determine your MARAC expiration date.

**General Election**

Nominations will be open for 60 days - from January 5<sup>th</sup> through March 10<sup>th</sup> for the following District Directors:

North Central Director – 3 year term expiring 2020

South Central Director – 3 year term expiring 2020

Only members residing in these districts are eligible to vote.

Any current member of MARAC is eligible to run for office and you may nominate yourself or any other eligible member. If you nominate another person, you must get the consent of that person prior to submitting the nomination. For the District Director position, you must live within the District. Voting will occur in May, 2017. Please send your nomination to [k7dm@centurylink.net](mailto:k7dm@centurylink.net) not later than March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

**MARAC 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Awards**

Voting will be open from January 15<sup>th</sup> through January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 for the Best Net Control, Mobile, and Team awards. There are no nominees for these awards; you vote for the person or persons you feel are the most deserving.

Don K7DM

MARAC Elections Coordinator

e-mail: [k7dm@centurylink.net](mailto:k7dm@centurylink.net)

**Awards**

## Awards Secretary Report

## Awards Issued October, November, December 2016

Call	Date	Award	Number
WQ7A	02-Oct-16	Worked all Counties - 7th Time	# 25
K8QWY	03-Oct-16	Worked all Counties - 3rd Time	# 251
K0FG	02-Nov-16	BINGO II	# 99
AF3X	16-Nov-16	Service Award	
K4EXT	16-Nov-16	Service Award	
N6PDB	22-Nov-16	BINGO III	# 38
K7DM	03-Dec-16	Gemini - Jack Scroggins (W0SJJE)	# 179 2nd Time Holders
N2JNE	26-Dec-16	USA - Single Band	# 30 - 20 Meters

## Roadrunners Issued October, November, December 2016

Call	Date	Award	Number
W0GXQ	01-Oct-16	Last County Count 1075	# 8
KW1DX	05-Oct-16	Last County Count 425	# 46
KC3X	05-Oct-16	Last County Count 400	# 51
KB6UF	05-Oct-16	Last County Count 1450	# 2
AB7NK	22-Oct-16	Last County Count 475	# 41
NF0N	01-Nov-16	Last County Count 300	# 73
NOXYL	01-Nov-16	Last County Count 375	# 52
WY7ML	21-Nov-16	Last County Count 50	# 357
W4SIG	05-Dec-16	Last County Count 450	# 45
WA9DLB	05-Dec-16	Last County Count 125	# 189
N0KV	05-Dec-16	Last County Count 850	# 14
W3DYA	06-Dec-16	Last County Count 225	# 104
WA4UNS	06-Dec-16	Last County Count 250	# 93
N0DXE	06-Dec-16	Last County Count 325	# 66
KL1V	06-Dec-16	Last County Count 1025	# 10
N4CD	06-Dec-16	Last County Count 2625	# 1
NF0N	06-Dec-16	Last County Count 300	# 74
KD1EJ	10-Dec-16	Last County Count 25	# 523
KB6UF	10-Dec-16	Last County Count 1475	# 2
N8KIE	10-Dec-16	Last County Count 1150	# 6
W9SUQ	10-Dec-16	Last County Count 100	# 253
AB7NK	17-Dec-16	Last County Count 500	# 39

LC1 / LC2s Processed October, November, December 2016

Last County in the State      974  
 Last County in the USA        5

**FYI:** Award applications will be processed twice monthly, unless volume demands more frequently  
 Award plaques and plates will be ordered once a month, unless volume demands more frequently

MARAC 2017 National Convention Registration

September 25-28, Hotel Elegante Conference & Event Center, Colorado Springs CO

(Deadline for Early Registration Prize Drawing is July 1, 2017)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CALL SIGN: \_\_\_\_\_

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

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE/PROV: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Convention Registration Fee: Note: Includes badge & Non-alcoholic beverages & snacks. \$45.00
(One Registration fee/family unit – Includes 1 prize ticket)

Name on Badge: \_\_\_\_\_ Call sign: \_\_\_\_\_ USACA \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Badges (Includes Non-alcoholic beverages & snacks) (list info below)

Total # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call sign \_\_\_\_\_ USACA# \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call sign \_\_\_\_\_ USACA# \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_

Relation: S-Spouse, O-Other (specify-friend, son, daughter)

Photos will be e-mailed after convention -- Group, CW, YL, etc. Free/included w/registration)

Extra Prize Tickets (Increase your chances of winning the Big Prizes! (plus additional prizes)

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

12-pack tickets \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Events & Activities \*(Descriptions provided on-line)

\* Schedule of programs, mobile antenna testing, etc. on Tues and Wed provided at a later date and included w/registration package.

Monday, Sept 25 – Check in and hospitality room

Tuesday, Sept 26 – Bus Tour (U.S. Olympic Training Center and Garden of the Gods

on a Comfortable coach (9:20 a.m. – 2:20 p.m. # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$35.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sept 26 – Do-It-Yourself Activities/Shopping, Programs, etc.

Wednesday, Sept 27 - Banquet/Dinner Buffet 6:00 PM # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$40.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Door prizes, main prizes, announcements, etc.

TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your registration form and check, made payable to: “2017 MARAC Convention” to:

Pat Mitchell, N0DXE

12200 Boothill Dr

Parker CO 80138

Hotel Reservations: (\$119 for single or double, plus tax). Includes breakfast.

Hotel Elegante Conference and Event Center, 28865 Circle Dr, Colorado Springs CO 80906

Call 719-576-5900 and request Group Code MARAC or book on-line at: https://www.reseze.net/servlet/SendPage?hotelid=1410&skipfirstpage=true&page=1694377

(Hotel is pet friendly)

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)

**Treasurer's Report (W7OLY)  
November 2016\***

**Beginning Account Balances November 6, 2016** **\$34,000.24**

**Income:**

Money Market Interest	\$1.19	
Awards Manager Income	\$0.00	
Misc. Income (1)	\$1,127.02	
Membership Income	\$230.00	
Logger Distribution	<u>\$0.00</u>	
Total Income:		\$1,358.21

**November 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

**November Other Expenses:**

Awards Secretary Expenses	\$0.00
Misc. Expenses (2)	\$2,496.00
Office Expenses (Postage, Etc.)	<u>\$0.00</u>

Total Expenses: \$2,496.00

**October Net Income Less Expenses** **(\$1,137.79)**

**New Total Cash Balance ALL Accounts:** **\$32,862.45**

Checking Account Balance	\$5,751.64
Money Market Account Balance	<u>\$27,110.81</u>
<b>Total Cash All Accounts:</b>	<b>\$32,862.45</b>

\* Includes December Transactions posted through 12/7/2016

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

Notes:

(1) Close out N2JNE Awards Secretary Fund. Net after expenses of \$372.98

(2) Funding W8TAX Awards Secretary Fund - \$1,500.00.

2017 Michigan Mini seed money - \$600.00.

MARAC Club's annual liability insurance - \$396.00.



# From a balance sheet perspective, MARAC Total Funds at the end of November should be discounted by **\$6,220.15**. This amount is a Deferred Liability of award fees pre-paid by members. After discounting, our true (spendable) Cash Assets are **\$26,642.30**.



**Events**

1/7        ARRL RTTY

1/7        KIDS DAY

1/14      NA CW QP

1/16      RUN4BACON

1/21      NA SSB QP

1/28      MT QP

ONLY START DATE SHOWN

CLICK ON EVENT TO GO TO THAT WEB SITE



**Awards Committee**

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

**Awards Manager - Ron Clift (N5MLP)**

**Phil Yasson ( AB7RW )**

**Kent Reinke ( KV7N )**

**Ed Palagyi ( KN4Y )**

**“Matt” Matthew (W0NAC)**

**Ron Clift (N5MLP)**

**Lloyd Smith (NX4W)**

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

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**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

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**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