



THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

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President's QTC

Several topic this month so let's get right to it.

We have had some problems with our web server and our Last County application this past month. Dave, KW1DX, finely tracked it down. Apparently EasyCGI made some changes on their end and didn't inform us. WOW! Gene, KD9ZP, is working on modifying Logger so you can submit LC1's from within Logger. Watch for that to be released in the near future.

As long as we're talking about LC1's let me remind everyone that LC1's are free. However, there is a bug in the Awards Processing program that will indiscriminately charge a \$1. Gene is looking for that bug.

Award Rules. The current rules for Net Control of The Year voting says the following:

Net Control of the Year Award - SSB

Net Control of the Year Award - CW

IN MEMORIAM: The Net Control of the Year Award - CW is in honor of Paul Edmonds (W8RYP, SK). Paul was an active Net Control on the early CW county hunting nets, especially 40 meters.

OBJECTIVE: To recognize members of MARAC who have made a significant contribution to county hunting by operating as net control operator for a MARAC-sponsored net.

SPECIAL RULES: The recipient of each award is determined by a quarterly ballot of the MARAC membership.

The annual recipient in each category (SSB/CW) is the MARAC member who receives the highest total of votes from all quarterly ballots each year. The same person may receive this award more than once.

Each voter and recipient must be a member of MARAC in good standing, as evidenced by current payment of dues.

Contents	
2017 (51 st) MARAC USA QSO PARTY	13
Awards	19
Awards Committee	15
Board of Directors Meeting	6
"Call for Papers"	12
Dateline CW	3
District Director Nominations	8
Events	22
National	9
President's QTC	1
Treasurer's Report (W7OLY)	20

So based on the current rules when all the quarterly ballots are tallied up for Net Control of the Year Award a vote will only be counted for Net Control efforts on a MARAC sponsored net or ad-hoc net.

Self-Credit. For many years we have all heard dozens and dozens of members asking “Why can’t we as a mobile get credit for putting out the counties that we spend a lot of dollars and time to put out for everyone else”? The new “Self-Claim” rule for several awards that was recently passed by the Awards Committee and also passed by the MARAC Board of Directors will correct that. The chance of this new rule being developed into Logger is slim to none and that applies to any new award being added to Logger. Unless we can find someone who is willing to pick up the development and support of Logger II.

If you choose to take credit for the counties that you transmit from, you must keep track of those counties using the spreadsheet that the Awards Committee is developing. This new rule should help stimulate more mobile activity. Without the mobiles County Hunting will eventually be a thing of the past.

Some upcoming important dates to keep in mind.

March 10: Last date to submit your nominations for South Central and North Central District Director.

March 31: Last date to submit nominations to your District Director for SSB & CW County Hunter of The Year.

April 27-29: Michigan Mini. More information is on our web site.

May 13-14: MARAC CW Contest. Rules can be found at WWW.MARAC.ORG or from NM2L.

May 19-21: Dayton Hamfest. MARAC will have a booth again this year. For more information please contact KB0BA/N0XYL.

Sept. 25-27: National Convention is Colorado Springs, CO. More information is on our web site.

Well that’s about it this month. As always, you can find me in the W6RK chat room.



Dateline CW
ED, KN4Y

A county hunter that increases mobility increaseth LC's.

I am in the radio shack seated at the radio listening to the QRM on the CW twenty meter call frequency and marvel how fast time moves without my intervention. The month of March is here and on a full moon requires a logging program time change to Daylight Savings Time, or as it is said, spring ahead on the twelfth. My favorite day is the arrival of the March equinox and the arrival of spring and in my case, pine tree pollen, Achoo! I feel better knowing this month Saint Joseph is guiding mobile county hunters on safe journeys from county to county. Outside I hear the kamikaze squirrels barking the arrival of Gator's 4x4 as he slides to a stop at the recycled railroad tie. I suddenly have an urge for coffee. I hear the thud of a successful kamikaze squirrel.

Gator comes into the shack carrying the familiar white cardboard container, I start to salivate. He opens the top and hands me a paper cup, "Here Dude you need this hot latte." It is hard to be gracious with a hard want, "Thanks Gator you saved my sanity." Gator laughs, "When where you sane?" I ignore his comment as I sip the nectar of the Gods. Gator asks, "I was on the West side of town and noticed your truck parked by a communications trailer adjacent to the EOC headquarters. I did not have time to stop, but out of curiosity what where you doing?" I sip my latte, "The local Sportsman's Paradise Amateur Radio Club (SPARC) set up radio stations in the EOC trailer to operate in the Winter Field Day. We had Sideband, Digital modes and I operated the CW mode. It worked great except for some QRM from having mounted the antennas too close together." "How did you 'all do?" Don't know yet, Doug our President has the logs. But I did read an email where one of the EOC guys was amazed how fast and efficient we got on the air." We sit, smile knowingly and sip our lattes.

Gator looks down then bends over and picks up a large brown envelope that had fallen on the floor. He opens the envelope pulls out a certificate, "Wow Dude I am proud of you, you got a Certificate from the Missouri QSO party for spelling the words "SHOW ME" ,when did you learn to spell?" Gator is laughing so hard he passes gas. I give him the finger, "Do something constructive and check out my CQ 160 meter contest log." Gator is still laughing as he mouses the computer, "I see you did not stay up very late as you only made 50 QSO's on 160 meters but you did get two new counties. Why did you quit so early?" I sip my latte, "Remember I told you our local radio club the Sportsman's Paradise ARC had set up a station adjacent to the EOC to operate in the Winter Field

Day. I operated the CW station until late Saturday night and when I got back here I was too pooped to operate a long time in the CQ 160 meter contest. So I just did 50 QSO's to have a score to submit for the Florida Contest Group total." Gator smiles, "That makes sense, I think." Gator gooses the mouse.

"I was just looking at your Minnesota QSO party log and I notice you again started late and only got 32 QSO's, but you did get two no-stars. Why late?" I set my latte down on the desk, "Well Gator I forgot to tell you that Saturday and Sunday I was bowling in the Northwest Bowling Tournament. I was late getting back to the radio shack. Bring up the Vermont QSO party and you will see I only made two QSO's. They were the only CW Vermont stations I heard." I hand Gator my bowling recap sheet, "Dude are you sure you bowled these scores?" Gator smiles as if impressed. "Yes, I finally bowled a good tournament, now let's get back to radio stuff." I hand Gator a lavender memory stick and he inserts it into the USB port.

Gator's eyes open in amazement, "Wow, Dude you operated CW in the PACC contest and made 69 QSO's." I smile big, "Yes Gator I went Dutch in this contest. Get it?" Gator grunts, the redneck expression for what a loser. "Well Dude you did not work a station in Flevoland province or you would have had a clean sweep." "Dang nap it, that would have been my first time, oh well maybe next year. Well since you are in the mood check out my ARRL CW DX contest log." Gator gooses the mouse.

Gator smiles and points to the computer screen, "This is not county hunting but I am impressed. You made 299 QSO's with 170 DX countries operating on all the contest bands. Think you will place?" "No there were operators galore operating in my category with higher scores." Gator looks at the computer screen, "Dude another county hunter is a silent key, did you know Joe, ND3T?" No, I never worked Joe." We bow our heads in his memory.

Gator's cell phone goes CQ, CQ, CQ. Sorry Dude I have to go pronto the corn grinder motor blew a fuse and is hot. He gone like a senior thought, I hear him yell, "If you bring Coke to a county hunter's convention it better be brown, wet and served over ice." I hear the printer start and stop; I get the print out and it is a list of mobiles that were heard on the CW county hunter's call frequencies.

I read: AK8A, K0FG, K2HVN, K4BAI, K7TM, K8ZZ, KA2LHO, KC3X, KC7QY, KC7YE, N2MH, N4CD, N4JT, N4UP, N9JF, V31MU, W0GXQ, W4SIG, W8OP, and WB0PYF,

March is happy month for the QSO party gang with five State QSO parties scheduled

with 352 counties up for grabs. There is the Oklahoma QSO party with 77 counties, the Idaho QSO party with 44 counties, the Wisconsin QSO party with 72 counties, the Louisiana QSO party with 64 parishes (known to county hunters as counties) and completing the whirlwind of fun the Virginia QSO party with 95 counties. Do you like contests, try the ARRL International Sideband DX contest, Try the South America 10-meter contest, maybe the Southern hemisphere can resurrect the 10-meter band? Need counties on 160-meters work the Stew Perry Topband Challenge. There are 31 various contest activities for the CW operator including the FOC QSO party. FOC is translated as the First Class CW Operators Club. Lastly, is the famous CQ World-Wide Sideband WPX contest. Have fun.

Back in days of old, County Hunters were Bold,
And sideband was yet to be invented.
Counties were worked by pounding brass,
And county hunter hunters were quite contented.
Unknown



Board of Directors Meeting

Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club (MARAC)

Thursday February 16, 2017

President Randy Hatt (AA8R) welcomed everyone to the BOD meeting and called the meeting to order at 0001z on Feb 16, 2017.

Board Members present via Uberconference:

Vice-President – Chuck Secrest (NM1G)

Secretary – Terry Dummler (WQ7A)

Northeast Director – Al Kaiser (N1API)

South Central Director – Barry Mitchell (N0KV)

Southeast Director – Kerry Long (W4SIG)

North Central Director – Mike Nickolas (NF0N)

Pacific Director – Paul Nelson (N7JPF)

Members not present:

Treasurer – Aubrey Mansfield (W7OLY)

Great Lakes Director – Tim Eklin (W8JJ)

Motion by Mike (NF0N) to accept the minutes of the previous BOD meeting as published. Seconded by Chuck(NM1G). Motion passed. WQ7A abstain.

Motion by Terry (WQ7A) to approve the Treasurer’s Report as published. Seconded by Paul (N7JPF). This report also contains the Awards Secretary report. Question by Chuck (NM1G) concerning the cost breakdown of the seed money for the upcoming National Convention. Motion passed. Vote was unanimous.

Old Business

No old business.

New Business

It was announced that the President has accepted the resignation of Norm (W3DYA) from his post of CW Contest Manager.

Motion was made by Chuck (NM1G) and seconded by Al(N1API) to appoint and approve Greg (N2L) as the new CW Contest manager. Vote was unanimous.

Motion was made by Mike (NF0N) and seconded by Chuck (NM1G) to approve the MARAC Service Award to Norm Beavers (W3DYA) for his many years as Contest Manager. Vote was unanimous.

Motion was made by Terry (WQ7A) and seconded by AL (N1API) to approve the MARAC Service Award to Pat Reiner (KM6QF) for her may hears as Sunshine Coordinator. Vote was unanimous.

Motion was made by Terry (WQ7A) and seconded by Barry (N0KV) to approve the MARAC Award rule concerning the service credit for the Awards Secretary toward Master Gold award. This will credit the Awards Secretary with the 500 hours per year the same as the Awards Manager. Vote was unanimous.

Motion was made by Barry (N0KV) and seconded by Paul (N7JPF) to approve specific wording changes to the "Special Rules" sections of 13 different existing awards which have been proposed by the MARAC Awards Committee. The changes will allow a mobile or portable station who transmits from a county to be able to obtain credit for his/her own needs in that county and thereby act as an incentive to licensed radio amateurs who are working toward various MARAC awards to go mobile/portable and put out more counties. Exact wording changes were provided by the Awards Committee. After considerable favorable discussion on this matter, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve the changes as written. Vote was unanimous.

Motion was made by Terry (WQ7A) and seconded by Chuck (NM1G) to approve the MARAC Lifetime Service Award to Gene Olig, (KD9ZP) for his many years of writing and maintaining the MARAC Logger program. Vote was unanimous.

Ron (N5MLP) was invited to explain the logic behind and the effects of the new "self-credit" rule changes. A lot of questions, discussion and positive comments.

Comments by N0KV on the upcoming National Convention. They are taking reservations. Get yours in. I did.

Motion was made by Al (N1AI) and seconded by Mike (NF0N) to provide funds not to exceed \$500 for the Dayton Hamfest booth to promote MARAC and county hunting. Vote was unanimous.

Dave (KW1DX) reported on progress made toward keeping our internet web working. Some fixes were made and ideas going forward to keep our present internet server.

Next Board Meeting date was set for May 31, 2017 7pm EST. (0001z 1 JUN UTC)

Motion by Al (N1API) to adjourn meeting at 0107Z Feb 16, 2016. Vote was unanimous.

Meeting was then opened to the membership for comments and questions.

Respectfully submitted
Terry, WQ7A
Secretary



District Director Nominations

Nominations are now open for the North Central District Director and the South Central District Director. Please submit nominations or volunteer statements for these positions NLT March 10, 2017. Be sure to obtain the approval of the person you wish to nominate. Send nominations to me at k7dm@centurylink.net.

Nominations for CW and SSB County Hunter of the Year

Nominations are now open for the 2017 CW and SSB County Hunter of the Year Awards. Nominations must be received by your District Director not later than March 31st and should contain a brief list of reasons for the nomination. Your District Director will select one nominee (one for CW and one for SSB) from those received and forward that selection, with the reasons for the selection, to the Awards Manager by no later than April 15th. Prior winners (per mode) are not eligible to receive this award a second time. Please read the requirements for County Hunter of the Year and support those members who work to make MARAC the vibrant organization that it is.

MARAC Voting Information

Remember, 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 web site at

www.marac.org

Left-click on "County Hunter DB" and enter your call in Call Lookup to determine your MARAC expiration date.

Don McMinds K7DM

MARAC Election Coordinator

National

Information about Convention – for RR

The 2017 MARAC National Convention will be held at the Hotel Elegante Conference and Event Center in Colorado Springs (I-25, exit 138) on 25-27 Sep with check out on 28 Sep. Early check in is on 24 Sep (Barry, N0KV and Pat, N0DXE will be setting up in the hospitality room after 6 p.m.) We will have several programs, an organized bus tour plus a buffet banquet.

Bring a gift to the gift exchange, which will take place the evening of the banquet. Gift should be in the \$15 range. We will also draw for the early bird prize and other prizes at the banquet.

Registration is now open (see Registration Form). Registration for the early bird ticket/prize is 1 July 2017.

Colorado should be beautiful this time of year with the Aspen trees turning a golden yellow. Come see the majestic mountains and visit some of the many Colorado Springs/Pikes Peak area site-seeing opportunities.

Free Visitor Information: Colorado Springs Visitor Information Center. Web: VisitCOS.com (719) 685-7623

- **Pike's Peak** – you can drive to the summit (14,115') or take the scenic Pike's Peak Cog Railway, the highest train in the U.S. and highest cog in the world. Open all year but reservations for the train are recommended. CogRailway.com or (719) 685-5401.
- If driving to Pike's Peak, stop in the North Pole-Santa's Workshop, where it's Christmas every day of the year. Pike's Peak Hwy, NorthPoleColorado.com, (719) 684-9432.
- **U. S. Air Force Academy** – home to Air Force Cadets future Air Force officers. The Visitor's Center presents a movie on cadet life along with exhibits and gift shop. Located at I-25, exit 156. Free.
- **Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center.** Has a permanent collection of paintings, photography, modern art including works by Ansel Adams, Dale Chihuly, Georgia O'Keeffe, and many others. (719) 634-5581.
- Cave of the Winds – where you can explore deep inside a winding cave. There are 3 cave tours to choose from. CaveOfTheWinds.com or (719) 685.5444.
- **Manitou Cliff Dwellings**, authentic dwellings of the of the Anasazi Indians built more than 700 years ago. CliffDwellingsMuseum.com, (719) 685-5242
- **The Broadmoor** – a 5-star historic hotel, considered “The Grand Dame of the Rockies.” A site to behold, you can walk the grounds, peruse the boutiques, or dine in one of the hotel's fine restaurants Located at exit 138, it is 3 miles west of I-15.
- **Cheyenne Mountain Zoo**, America's one and only mountain zoo, which stands at 6714 ft and houses many amazing creatures. Hand-feed a giraffe. I-25, exit 138. 2.75 west then 2 mi SW. CMZoo.org or (719) 633-9925.
- **Seven Falls** -7-tiered natural wonder cascading falls near Broadmoor. SevenFalls.com
- **Ghost Town Museum** – step back in time and explore an old west town inside a museum setting. GhostTownMuseum.com, (719) 634-0696.
- **Historic Old Colorado City.** Historic shopping district with unique gift shops and a great place to eat. The ladies will love this area. 2234 W. Colorado Ave., ShopOldColoradoCity.com, (710)

577-4112.

- **Historic Manitou Springs** – just west of Old Colorado City, Manitou is a quaint mountain town with many unique shops and a great place to grab lunch. You can drink from the 8 mineral springs. ManitouSprings.org, (719) 685-5089
- **Prorodeo Hall of Fame**. History and legends of professional rodeo. ProRodeoHallofFame.com, (719) 528-4764.
- **Western Museum of Mining and Industry**. (800-752-6558)
- **World Figure Skating Museum and Hall of Fame**. (719) 635-5200
-

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 Attendees: Badges & non-alcoholic beverages & snacks included (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, 2886 S. 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)

“Call for Papers”

for the 2017 MARAC National Convention

If there's interest, we'd like to try something a little different with this year's forums at the MARACA National Convention. We'd like to see if we can find at least a few new forum topics and new speakers for this year's convention. So far, I've asked Larry, W0QE, to give a presentation summarizing the results of the mobile antenna measurement activities, and I will ask the “usual suspects” to chair a CW forum.

Is there something that you know about that you think would be of interest to the other County Hunters at the convention? If so, why not put a little something together to share and give a presentation! Doesn't need to be long – maybe 20-40 minutes. We will have a forum presentation area and a projector and screen available.

Please let Pat and I know by April 1st what you'd like to present. We'll review the topics and give you feedback shortly after that.

Thanks and 73's, Barry and Pat, N0KV/N0DXE

2017 MARAC National Convention Chairpersons



Since 1997

2017 (51st) MARAC USA QSO PARTY

1400z to 2400z Saturday May 13th and 1400z to 2400z Sunday May 14th

The Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club is pleased to sponsor the 51st Annual County Hunters Contest “MARAC USA QSO PARTY”. Mobile and Fixed operation from every county in the U.S. is encouraged.

RULES

1. Mobiles must clearly identify themselves as being mobile by signing /M or / County.
2. Multipliers: Each category, Mobile, Fixed, and DX will have a separate set of 3077 Multipliers. A Multiplier can only be counted once in each category during the contest, regardless of band.
3. A Mobile on a county line can be counted for each county as a new potential multiplier and two (2) contacts (30 points). Three and four county lines are not allowed.
4. Single operator stations only. Mobile drivers are allowed.
5. Contest contacts between operators in the same vehicle or in shadowing vehicles are invalid. There are no restrictions on spotting mobile stations.
6. To be considered as “Mobile”, you must transmit from a minimum of three (3) counties.
7. Net contacts are not allowed.
8. For a contact to be valid, one station must be in a U.S. county.
9. Official list of County Codes (Multipliers) can be downloaded at:
www.w0qe.com/county_hunting.html

EXCHANGE

U.S. station: Signal report, State Code and County Abbreviation.

Ex: 599 MI JKSN or MI JKSN/CHOU

All others: Signal report, “DX” (Including Mexico and Canada)

Ex: 599 DX

SCORING

FIXED stations -- 1 point **DX** stations --5
points **MOBILE** stations -- 15 points

MOBILES:

1. Calculate a STATE score for each state that you activate by:
 1. Add up the Total # of QSO points worked while in that state.
 2. Add up the total # of unique multipliers worked while in that state.
 3. Total State score = (Total # QSO pts) x (Total # Multipliers)
2. Scores CANNOT count a multiplier more than once regardless of the State, County or band that you are operating in.
3. Final Score = (Total QSO points from all states) x (Total Multipliers from all states)
4. You must submit a log and summary sheet for each state.
5. Submit a Summary Sheet for Total Mobile Category Score.

FIXED:

1. Scores Can Not count a multiplier more than once regardless of band.
2. Final score = (Total # QSO pts) x (Total # Multipliers)
3. You must submit a log and summary sheet.

SUGGESTED FREQUENCIES

3.550, 7.050, 14.050, 21.050, and 28050. Fixed stations should operate above the suggested frequencies and mobiles below.

AWARDS

MARAC PLAQUES: (A station can only win one plaque)

- 1st and 2nd place MOBILE and FIXED
- 1st place DX station
- 1st place Canadian Station if enough entries warrant an award.

MARAC Contest Certificates:

- Highest scoring Mobile and Fixed stations in each State.
- Highest scoring ARRL Country and Canadian Provinces.
- MARAC Participation Certificate is awarded to all entrants with at least 100 valid contacts.

APPLICATION AND FEES: In order to be eligible for an award, an entrant must submit a log and entry information that meets all of the requirements of the contest rules. There are no contest entry fees or other fees for these awards.

LOG Submission

Send completed logs (Cabrillo format accepted) and summary sheet by June 30, 2017 to:

nm2lgreg@charter.net

Or mail to:

Greg Potter, NM2L
5390 Lexington View Place
Sugar Hill, GA 30518-7627

Please note that the contest chairman will not score your log. Any logs not scored, or lacking a summary sheet, will be considered check logs only.

Awards Committee

Awards Committee

Awards Committee Activity:

During February work was completed to:

- Make recommendations to the MARAC Board of Directors prior to the 2/15/17 meeting concerning modifications to allow mobile/portable stations to receive credit for their own needs in counties they run if they make at least one contact while transmitting from the county.
- Make a recommendation on the amount of service hour credit to be awarded annually to the Awards Manager and Awards Secretary

Work is still continuing to:

- Categorize existing awards
- Identify awards which may require rewording for clarification
- Develop recommendations for new awards to be pursued

At the quarterly MARAC Board of Directors meeting on February 15th, the board approved all of the recommendations forwarded to it by the Awards Committee. The official MARAC Awards rules have not yet been updated because an editable master document was not available. Efforts are being made to recreate that document and it will then be updated. For those that wish to see the actual wording of the changes approved for 13 different awards at the February meeting, the recommendations are presented here in their entirety:

1) Worked All USA Counties Award (2nd time to Nth time)

Add the following wording in bold type to the Special Rules section under this award:

"A mobile/portable operator may claim self-credit toward this award for the transmitted county by making at least one Valid Contact on the HF bands. All contacts which claim self-credit must have been made after 2/15/2017."

2) USA-CW Award

Add the following wording in bold type to the Special Rules section under this award:

"A mobile/portable operator may claim self-credit toward this award for the transmitted county by making at least one Valid CW Contact on the HF bands. All contacts which claim self-credit must have been made after 2/15/2017."

3) USA SSB Award

Add the following wording in bold type to the Special Rules section under this award:

"A mobile/portable operator may claim self-credit toward this award for the transmitted county by making

at least one SSB Valid Contact on the HF bands. All contacts which claim self-credit must have been made after 2/15/2017."

4) USA - Digital Award

Add the following wording in bold type to the Special Rules section under this award:

"A mobile/portable operator may claim self-credit toward this award for the transmitted county by making at least one Digital Valid Contact on the HF bands. All contacts which claim self-credit must have been made after 2/15/2017."

5) YL/OM Team Award

Add the following wording in bold type to the Special Rules section under this award:

"Both operators of a mobile team may claim self-credit toward this award for the transmitted county by each making at least one Valid SSB Contact on the HF bands. All contacts which claim self-credit must have been made after 2/15/2017."

6) YL Award

Add the following wording in bold type to the Special Rules section under this award:

"A mobile/portable YL operator may claim self-credit toward this award for the transmitted county by making at least one Valid Contact on the HF bands. All contacts which claim self-credit must have been made after 2/15/2017."

7) Five Star Award

Add the following wording in bold type to the Special Rules section under this award:

"A mobile/portable operator may claim self-credit toward this award for the transmitted county by making at least one Valid Contact on the HF bands. The credit received will be equal to the stars the operator claiming self-credit currently holds. All contacts which claim self-credit must have been made after 2/15/2017. "

8) Star XX (Twenty Star Award)

Add the following wording in bold type to the Special Rules section under this award:

"A mobile/portable operator with the Five Star Award may claim self-credit toward this award for the transmitted county by making at least one Valid Contact with another Five Star holder on the HF bands. The credit received will be equal to the stars the operator claiming self-credit currently holds. All contacts which claim self-credit must have been made after 2/15/2017. "

9) Single Band Award

Add the following wording in bold type to the Special Rules section under this award:

"A mobile/portable operator may claim self-credit toward this award for the transmitted county by making

at least one Valid Contact on the single band for which the credit is to be applied. All contacts which claim self-credit must have been made after 2/15/2017."

10) USA Prefix Award (USA-PA)

Add the following wording in bold type to the Special Rules section under this award:

"A mobile/portable operator may claim self-credit for any prefix credit his/her personal call sign is eligible for in that county by making at least one Valid Contact on the HF bands. However, any non-personal call sign (including but not limited to a club call sign or temporary 1x1 call sign) used by this operator is NOT eligible to be used to obtain self-credit for this award when transmitting from a county. All contacts which claim self-credit must have been made after 2/15/2017."

11) USA – Call Sign Combo Award

Add the following wording in bold type to the Special Rules section under this award:

"A mobile/portable operator may claim self-credit for call sign combo credit his/her personal call sign is eligible for in that county by making at least one Valid Contact on the HF bands. However, any non-personal call sign (including but not limited to a club call sign or temporary 1x1 call sign) used by this operator is NOT eligible to be used to obtain self-credit for this award when transmitting from a county. All contacts which claim self-credit must have been made after 2/15/2017."

12) Bingo - Natural Bingo Award

Add the following wording in bold type to the Special Rules section under this award:

"A mobile/portable operator may claim self-credit for any "Bingo – Natural Bingo" credit his/her personal call sign is eligible for in that county by making at least one Valid Contact on the HF bands. However, any non-personal call sign (including but not limited to a club call sign or temporary 1x1 call sign) used by this operator is NOT eligible to be used to obtain self-credit for this award when transmitting from a county. All contacts which claim self-credit must have been made after 2/15/2017."

13) Bingo Cinco Award

Add the following wording in bold type to the Special Rules section under this award:

"A mobile/portable operator who holds a Bingo Award or higher level Bingo award (Bingo II, Bingo III, etc.) may claim self-credit toward this award for the transmitted county by making at least one Valid Contact on the HF bands. The credit received will be equal to the number of Bingo credits the operator claiming self-credit currently holds. All contacts which claim self-credit must have been made after 2/15/2017. "

Note: One additional similar award change for the Bingo award (an oversight in the original list of changes) has also been recommended to the MARAC board.

Status of Awards Operations

During February, the Awards Secretary continued to process new award applications and order/distribute plaques as requested. Financial reporting to the club Treasurer is also proceeding normally.

W8TAX indicates that the online applications used to submit LC1/LC2 awards requests are currently functioning normally again. We thank the Application support personnel who worked diligently to correct the issue encountered earlier.

MARAC Awards Committee



N5MLP – Ron Clift, Marac Awards Manager

Awards

Awards Secretary Report

Congratulations to ALL!!!

Awards Issued January 1, 2017 - February 19, 2017

Call	Award Date	Award	Number
W6OUL	1/23/2017	YL-OM Team	#20
W6OUL	1/23/2017	YL Mobile	#42
K0DEQ	2/1/2017	Gemini - Jack Scroggins (W0SJJE)	#174
KC3X	2/9/2017	USA-CW IV	#13
K3VAT	2/12/2017	USA-Digital	#16
KM6QF	2/15/2017	Service Award	
W3DYA	2/15/2017	Service Award	

Roadrunners Issued January 1, 2017 - February 19, 2017

Call	Award Date	Award	Number
K0FG	1/5/2017	Last County Count 125	#191
K2HVN	1/5/2017	Last County Count 900	#13
KB6UF	1/5/2017	Last County Count 1500	#2
N0DXE	1/5/2017	Last County Count 350	#59
N2JNE	1/5/2017	Last County Count 175	#143
N4UP	1/5/2017	Last County Count 25	#524
NX4W	1/5/2017	Last County Count 200	#123
WA4PGM	1/5/2017	Last County Count 125	#190
K7SEN	1/16/2017	Last County Count 175	#144
KA3QLF	1/16/2017	Last County Count 50	#359
AB7NK	1/26/2017	Last County Count 525	#34
K8ZZ	2/13/2017	Last County Count 625	#26
KB0BA	2/19/2017	Last County Count 300	#74

LC1 / LC2s Processed January 1, 2017 - February 19, 2017

Last County in the State 298
 Last County in the USA 1

FYI:

Award applications will be processed once or twice monthly, depending on volume
 Award plaques & plates will be ordered monthly or bi-monthly, depending on volume

Please note: There is a known "bug" in the awards program which randomly charges for an LC1/2. Please be assured your accounts are NOT being charged for LC1/2s. If you happen to receive the e-mail notification showing a charge for an LC1/2, please just ignore it.



**Treasurer's Report (W7OLY)
January 2017***

Beginning Account Balances January 8, 2017 **\$26,315.69**

Income:

Money Market Interest	\$0.97	
Awards Secretary Income	\$68.00	
Misc. Income (1)	\$3.00	
Membership Income	\$200.00	
Logger Distribution	<u>\$65.00</u>	
Total Income:		\$336.97

January 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	

**December Other Expenses:**

Awards Secretary Expenses	\$42.82	
Misc. Expenses (2)		
\$600.09		
Office Expenses (Postage, Etc.) (3)	<u>\$46.09</u>	

Total Expenses: \$689.00

January Net Income Less Expenses **(\$352.03)**

New Total Cash Balance ALL Accounts: **\$25,963.66**

Checking Account Balance		\$2,850.80
Money Market Account Balance		<u>\$23,112.86</u>
Total Cash All Accounts:		\$25,963.66

* Includes January Transactions posted through 2/7/2017

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

Notes:

- (1) Remaining funds from previous Awards Secretary (N2JNE) account.
- (2) Reimburse WONAC shipping expenses (\$165.89) + Simply Voting renewal (\$434.20)
- (3) Three months postage, hanging files & file storage box

From a balance sheet perspective, MARAC Total Funds at the end of December should be discounted by **\$6,291.15**. This amount is a Deferred Liability of award fees pre-paid by members. After discounting, our true (spendable) Cash Assets are **\$19,672.51**.

Awards Secretary Financial Report

January 2017

Bank Account Report:

Account Funds on hand December 31, 2016		730.59
Treasurer Reimbursement	769.41	
Funds received from members 1/1/17 thru 1/31/17	<u>68.00</u>	
		<u>837.41</u>
		1,568.00
Expenses:		
Office Supplies	-	
Plaque Supplies	-	
Postage/Shipping	37.82	
Bank Service Fees	<u>5.00</u>	
Total Expenses		<u>42.82</u>
Account Funds on hand January 31, 2017		1,525.18
Reimbursement sent to Treasurer		25.18

Member Accounts Report:

Member Funds on Hand December 31, 2016	6,226.15
Net Funds deposited and/or used	<u>65.00</u>
Member Funds on Hand January 31, 2017	6,291.15



Events

- 3/4 ARRL DX SSB
- 3/11 OK QP
- 3/11 ID QP
- 3/12 NA RTTY SPRINT
- 3/12 WI QP
- 3/18 LA QP
- 3/18 VA QP
- 3/25 CQ WW WPX SSB
- 4/27 MI MINI
- 9/25 NATIONAL

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)

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