



THE COUNTY LINE ***ROADRUNNER***

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Dave's Call

Summer time is for going places. I'm sitting here wondering. Where we are going? What will the future of MARAC be?

By now I can only assume that you've heard that Mike, W0MU, has resigned the presidency of MARAC.

As vice president Ed, K8ZZ, really has his hands full now. He is managing the 50th National Convention (which is NOT being cancelled!) and must assume the duties of president of MARAC.

No one seems to want the secretary position currently held by my friend Terry, WQ7A.

While membership is down somewhat, active mobiles are still out there and even in lousy band conditions.

Can more of us feel the call to belly up to the bar and assume some responsibility for the health and welfare of our club? I think so. Ham operators are known to lead, follow and be successful at both.

73,
Dave, KU4YM



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Dateline CW
Ed, KN4Y

County hunter's logic – When running a county line in Florida DO NOT roll down the windows.

I finished putting away my radio gear I used at the local Sportsman's Paradise Amateur radio Club scorcher field day event. I go inside the radio shack to cool off. The month of July is here, the hottest month of the year, I stand in front of the air conditioner to enjoy the cool breeze. I hear Gator down shift as he slides to a stop at the recycled railroad tie. He stops at the mailbox and comes into the shack carrying the mail and a white cardboard container. "Greetings Dude, I stopped at the senior citizens club to pick up any of my Bang-July celebration. There was none left." I laugh, "I could have told you that." "Were you there?" "Do birds have wings?" Gator laughs and hands me a super sized latte. Gator turns on the computer.



I take a sip of my latte, "Gator bring up my CQ WPX log, you are going to be surprised." Gator mouses around, "Golly Dude you ran single band ten meters and made 164 QSOs that is awesome, hold on while I check the details." I sip my hot latte and feel a little cooler. "Dude just for the heck of it I checked for 10-10 numbers and 49 stations you worked had a 10-10 number, two were listed as silent keys. You worked three new counties, three DX stations and 16 Canadian stations. Think that will get you a certificate?" "I doubt it Gator I run low power and high power rules in the WPX contest. Check out my Kentucky QSO party log."

Gator mouses around some more, "Dude you made 20 QSOs in the Kentucky QSO party, I don't think that is called working a QSO party." I laugh, "I did work the QSO party but Kentucky is not a CW state, many of the CW operators have retired and moved to the South. But I did work one of the bonus stations." "I reach over and get the white envelope from the stack of mail Gator brought in. Gator hands me his illegal honed to perfection pearl handled switch blade and I open the envelope.

I hold up a certificate, "This is from the Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club for High Florida CW in the Virginia QSO party." Gator laughs, "What is High Florida CW?" "That is a good question Gator, I guess it means I made a high number of CW QSOs while in Florida, or maybe it was assumed I was using high power which I do not have, or perhaps they thought I was drinking and operating CW." Gator giggles, "I am sure it has nothing to do with sea level." I change the subject, "Gator check out my CQ WPX CW Contest log." I sip my latte.

“Dude I made a quick check of your e-mail and I downloaded a certificate from the Arkansas QSO party. You are second place in Mobile Unassisted Div. What is that?” I look at the rules, “That is a good question, that is not a category mentioned in the rules. Uncle Bubba probably came up with the category.” Gator is laughing as he opens the white cardboard box and removes two hot lattes and hands one to me. “Dude what does this note mean you have wedged on the computer keyboard that has e-QSL scribbled on it?”

I sip my latte, “That Gator is one of my senior moments. When the New Year arrived I did not change my ending date on my e-QSL profile and I stopped getting E-QSL’s. As you know I am not into e-QSL but I do reply to any I get. I realized my date error and corrected the date. Dang, in comes 700 QSOs most from my QSO party mobile trips. . It will take awhile but I will get them all answered. Check out my ARRL June VHF contest log.”

Gator mouses around and sips his latte, “Dude I am impressed, you made 190 QSOs on six meters and you added 17 counties to you CW six meter book.” “Yes Gator, I could have worked more but I was busy Saturday and Sunday morning and from reports I have read I missed great openings. Gator is mousing around.

“Dude you made only Five QSOs in the West Virginia QSO party, fall asleep again?” I laugh, “No Gator just like Kentucky the State of West Virginia is also not a CW QSO party state plus band conditions were not the best from here. Speaking of band conditions check my Stew Perry log, it was horrible, the noise was loud and stations could not hear my low power signal. I even called and heard nothing. Gator giggles, “I agree Dude, I see you made four QSOs, not worth staying up for after bed time.” Gator continues to mouse around.

“Dude I just brought up your All Asian CW DX contest log. You made 57 QSOs all on twenty meters, a single band event.” I sip my latte, “Yes Gator I encountered lousy band conditions, a saving grace came on Saturday and Sunday morning when Japan stations were booming in, I worked a bunch and this gave me a reasonable total. I did not do single band on purpose, that is the only band I could make contact with the Asian stations I heard.” Gator laughs, “Dude I just noticed your age was part of the exchange, sure is a lot of old Dudes operating from Asia.” We have a good laugh and sip our lattes. Gator is looking at the computer, “Dude, I am reading about the MARAC 50th anniversary convention at Kansas City, Missouri on October 3-6 of this year. Can you remember when you were 50? Speaking of age Dude I have a list of 10 Perks for you being over 80

years old.

1. Kidnappers are not very interested in you.
2. In a hostage situation you are likely to be released first.
3. No one expects you to run...anywhere.”

Suddenly Gator’s cell phone goes CQ, CQ, CQ, Gator answers the call, “Dude I have to bug out and hit the road, “The hammer mill rotating cam shaft is smoking hot.” Gator is gone faster than a shot of bourbon at the Red Hen restaurant. I hear him yell, going to miss you Richard Harrison. The printer starts and I get the printout, it is the list of mobiles heard during June on the CW county hunters call frequencies.

I read: AB7RW, AI5P, K0DEQ, K0MAF, K7TM, K8MSQ, K8ZZ, KA2LHO, KA4RRU, KB0BA, N0AC, N0XYL, N4OP, N9JF, NG0E, W0GXQ, W4SIG, W8OP, WA4UNS and WB4KZW.

There are no State QSO parties in July, but still plenty of activity to satisfy the state QSO party enthusiast. Starting with day one is the RAC Canada Day contest, and the 10-10 International Sprit of 76 QSO party a 6 mode event. At my age handling one mode is a challenge. There is the Venezuelan Independence Day Contest, the Marconi Memorial CW HF contest. Then the anticipated IARU HF World Championships, a great CW event. There is also the Russian Radio Team Championships. Need six meter counties or maybe collect grid squares, try the CQ Worldwide VHF contest. To end a month full of CW fun, do the RSGB IOTA (Islands on the Air) contest. If the operation is approved you might listen for KN4Y operating from the Saint George lighthouse in Franklin County Florida. Nap time.

“50” NATIONAL CONVENTION

October 4rd thru 6th, 2018

Kansas City, MO.

Plan on attending the “50” Annual County Hunting Convention which is scheduled for the first week of October 2018.

Early registration is suggested as it gives me a better idea how many will be attending. Our goal is to have 100 people in attendance and we’re half way there. Register now and help us meet our goal.

And don’t forget, in order to be eligible for the EARLY BIRD drawing of a Yaesu FT-857D, your registration and payment must be received before August 1st, 2018. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Visit marac.org and click on the link for the National Convention. From the registration page, you can register online (don’t forget to mail in your check) or click where it says **REGISTRATION FORM**, print out the form and mail it in with your check to **AB7NK**. There is also a registration form attached to the newsletter.

Check out the schedule/forum page on the Convention website for a list of time and events taking place.

Remember, the banquet will be held Saturday evening. Unless you plan on leaving after the banquet, you may want to be sure your reservation covers you for Saturday evening.

**See you all in Oct –
Ed, K8ZZ - Chairman**

50th National Convention Registration

October 3 - 6, 2018 Holiday Inn Country Club Plaza, One East 45th St. Kansas City, MO. 64111

NAME: _____ CALL SIGN: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE/PROV: _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

Convention Registration Fee: Note: Includes badge & Non alcoholic beverages & snacks. \$40.00

(One Registration fee per family – 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)

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 = \$ _____

Thurs - October 4, 2018 - Pool Side KS City BBQ 6:00 PM # _____ x \$ 18.00 = \$ _____

Slow smoked pulled pork sandwich, baked bean, pickle, cole slaw, chocolate mousse, coffee/iced tea

Saturday - October 6, 2018 - Banquet 6:00 PM # _____ x \$ 35.00 = \$ _____

Dinner Menu:

Flamed grilled Eye of Ribeye Steak with Gourmet Mushrooms and Demi Glaze # _____

Pan Roasted Chicken with Mushroom Marsala Sauce # _____

Grilled Salmon with Lemon Butter Dill Sauce # _____

Entrees accompanied by fresh field green salad, baked potato, baby green beans and assorted rolls with butter. Choice of cheesecake or carrot cake and freshly brewed coffee, decaffeinated coffee and iced tea.

Gluten free meals available upon request. Must be listed on registration. # _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Mail your registration form and check payable to **MARAC** to:

Mary Vince - AB7NK
16128 S. Angus Cir
Cordes Lakes, AZ 86333

(Deadline for Early Registration Prize Drawing is August 1, 2018)

Door prizes, main prizes, announcements. Please bring a gift value approximately \$15.00 for the gift exchange.

Proclamation

Jim, WY8I

Whereas, in the course of events, my term as holder of the Ugly Award for the year 2017 is fast approaching its end. So therefore, it becomes my duty and responsibility to designate my successor!

He has spent quality time and lots of it adding more and more to his retirement as a former Paramedic on an Advanced Life Support Ambulance who spent many hours on the road saving lives and the well-being of people in his local community and coounty of Delta, Michigan.

There should be 36 hours in the day to keep track of his other hobbies also! He is a master woodcrafter and sculpturer and makes beautiful and realistic birds, wildlife and wood carved jewelry for women also! When he's not County Hunting, he also hunting real life deer and birds.

Along with all his hobbies he has been handed the job of keeping the County Hunter's Logger operational which is necessary when problems arise for those in need of his expert help.

Therefor, I proclaim Mr. Michael K. Delke, K8EMS, as recipient of the Ugly Award for 2018.

Given under my hand this 7th day of June of the yer of our Lord Two Thousand and Eighteen.

Signed,
Jum Odam, WY8I
Fair Haven, Michigan



Awards

Awards Committee

Results of County Hunter of the Year Nominations:

During the designated nomination period from April 1 – May 15, only one nominee for each category (CW and SSB) were received. The directors and the Awards Committee were contacted to see if there were any additional nominations that should be added, but none were forthcoming. Therefore, there is not any reason to have a vote by the membership in July since there was only one nominee per category. The names of the nominees/winners will be released at the national convention in October, 2018.

Awards Issued:

The listing below from Phil, AB7RW covers new awards issued since the previous newsletter was published:

Awards Issued:				Roadrunner Awards Issued:		
Call	Date	Award	Number	Call	Last County Count:	Number
WA4UNS	5/20/2018	USA-CW - 1st time	156	N9JF	475	43
K4YT	5/31/2018	USA - Call Sign Combo - 2x2	5	K0PFV	50	361
WA9DLB	4/21/2018	WAC* - 6th time	54	WA4UNS	275	82
NU0Q	5/4/2018	USA-CW - 2nd time	39	AB7NK	775	19
AB7NK	6/9/2018	WAC* - 3rd time	255	AB7RW	250	94
W8FNW	8/27/2017	WAC* - 3rd time	256	N5MLP	175	145
K5GE	5/5/2018	USA - Call Sign Combo - 2x2	6	WQ7A	625	28
KC3X	5/17/2018	USA - Single Band (20 m)	91	KB6UF	1525	2
K4YT	5/24/2018	RAS - Virginia	22	KB0BA	325	67
* WAC = Worked All USA Counties RAS = Ran All State						

MARAC Awards Committee



N5MLP – Ron Clift, Marac Awards Manager

Treasurer's Report (W7OLY)
May 2018*

Beginning Account Balances June 14, 2018 **\$24,038.11****Income:**

Money Market Interest	\$1.24
Awards Secretary Income	\$40.00
Misc. Income	\$0.00
Membership Income	\$440.00
Logger Distribution	<u>\$49.41</u>
Total Income:	

\$530.65

**Other Expenses:**

Awards Secretary Expenses	\$13.65
Misc. Expenses	\$0.00
Office Expenses (Postage, Etc.)	<u>\$0.00</u>

Total Expenses:

\$13.65

Net Income Less Expenses **\$517.00****New Total Cash Balance ALL Accounts:** **\$24,555.11**

Checking Account Balance	\$ 9,428.23
Money Market Account Balance	<u>\$15,126.88</u>
Total Cash All Accounts:	\$24,555.11

* Includes Transactions posted through 6/14/2018

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

Notes:

1. None

From a balance sheet perspective, MARAC Total Funds at the end of April should be discounted by **\$6,065.15**. This amount is a Deferred Liability of award fees pre-paid by members. After discounting, our true (spendable) Cash Assets are **\$18,489.96**.

Results

of MARAC Publicity Table at ARRL Northwest Convention **By Phil Yasson, AB7RW**

I purchased a table at the ARRL Pacific Northwest Convention which was held at Seaside, Oregon during the first weekend of June. W4SIG sent me the County Hunting banner and materials to pass out. I also had MARAC pins made to give to new signees. (If you were at the Michigan Mini, you probably received one of these pins.)

During the convention, the exhibit area where the table was located was open for a total of approximately 14 hours. During that time, I manned the table and discussed the purpose and activities of MARAC with many Technician-licensed convention attendees. Interest was high, and many of the Technicians said they cannot wait to get their General license and try county hunting. The result of my efforts was that:

- ☐ four county hunters renewed their membership, and
- ☐ three hams became new county hunters.



Events

10/3 National

4/26/19 MI Mini

Only start date shown

Awards Committee

These MARAC members are serving on the Awards Committee:

Awards Manager - Ron Clift (N5MLP)

Robert Woody - N8KIE

Tony Mazzocco -WA9DLB

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: Mike Fatchett, W0MU, PO Box 3500, Parker, CO 80134, 303-548-7222, w0mu@w0mu.com

Vice-President: Ed Eklin, K8ZZ, 1426 SW Summit Woods Dr Apt 3, Topeka, KS 66615, 231-649-4747, ed.eklin@gmail.com

Secretary: Terry Dummmler, 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: Scott Petty, KA3QLF, 2063 N Turnpike Rd, Dalton, PA 18414, 570-687-6173, ka3qlf@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: Randy Hatt, AA8R, PO Box 427, Grant MI 49327, 517-812-9468, aa8r@aol.com

Appointees

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

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

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