



# THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

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



Volume 52

January 2022

Number 1

## Thoughts from the Board

By Paige, W0FLZ, MARAC Pacific Division Director

Happy New Year fellow County Hunters!

Welcome to 2022, Sunspot Cycle 25 and what I hope will be a great year for mobile operations and some friendly club get togethers for both our membership and any other clubs you may be a member of. I recently attended a local ham club holiday dinner/party and it was great to see so many that until recently have only been a voice on the air or a face on Zoom. That said, we also are seeing the Omicron variant spreading rapidly across the US and the World, so please be safe as we enter the new year.

I am not one for New Years resolutions, but there are things that I hope to accomplish this year, projects that have been planned but not started, some that have recently been completed but not put to use and some that for one reason or another are taking way too long to complete. Among those things that I am looking forward to is getting out and running all WA counties and maybe OR and ID too. But I am really

excited about the MARAC Nation convention in October! I encourage you all to get it on your calendars and get your lodging reservations whether it be the hosting hotel your mobile RV ham shack or some other accommodation. Here is the link just in case you missed it elsewhere in the RoadRunner or on the club web page.

<http://ag6v.com/MARAC//> Also

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we have a Michigan Mini scheduled in April and here is the link!

<http://michiganmini.superhosts.net/>

As I sit here writing this the **SN is at 143 and the Solar Flux is 126!** Who would have thought that we would see such high numbers in the first year of Cycle 25? There are some very active regions on the Earth facing disk some showing significant flare activity, it is so exciting to have tools today that give us real time views of the activity on the Sun that have such an impact on our daily ham activities. With these nice triple digit numbers, the bands have just been alive with activity. Just this morning I worked Jennifer **NN4JM** activating a POTA in AL on 20M, which for me here in the Pac NW is exciting since when the numbers are low like they have been for so long, I usually only have propagation to the Southwest US.

Have you upgraded to Logger 2? Don, **K3IMC** has done a great job on getting our logging program upgraded to current programming code. It is significantly more stable than Logger 1. Like any upgraded or new software, it takes a little getting used to so please bear that in mind as you "learn the ropes" of this upgrade. It has some really nice features; I would like to give Don a big shout out of thanks for his continued efforts on Logger 2.

With the spike in solar activity, I hope to get out on the road on upcoming weekends and get some more counties ran and worked. Also, myself and Fred, **KK7NXS** have put together components to set up portable operations so look for us in the spring time to start activating Parks around the state as well as running occasional team operations putting out counties in WA and OR. We will be active on SSB and FT8 and if I really get motivated I will brush up on my CW (I have been listening in on a local old timer doing some CW training with a new young ham after a local 2M net)

I would like to offer a big thanks to all the operators who get out there and run the counties as well as those of you who spot them and work them while they are on the road. Back in my younger days in the Navy, running counties, checking in to other nets, and just ragchewing with the members of this and the other clubs is what kept me going on those long road trips, either when transferring from one duty station to another or just out on leave and traveling the country. And as a reminder our editor is always looking for home and mobile station pics to publish in the RoadRunner, share your shack! Let's see what you are talking on!

Please check out the MARAC VOLUNTEER openings in this month's issue. We need YOU!! I appreciate you all and wish you a happy and healthy 2022!

73, Paige, W0FLZ

Pacific Director, MARAC



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## 2022 MARAC Michigan Mini

By Kerry W4SIG

Everything is set for the 2022 MARAC Michigan Mini in Traverse City, Michigan! Dates are April 21-23. For details on the shindig run by MARAC President, Ed K8ZZ, please go to the [marac.org](http://marac.org) website. This annual event has been postponed for several years and it will be great to see everyone there next Spring!!

Ed K8ZZ



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# 2022 MARAC National Convention

<http://ag6v.com/MARAC/>

The 2020 National Convention is set for the *Fall of 2022* !

**checkin: Sunday October 2nd, 2022**  
to  
**checkout: Thursday October 6th, 2022**

**Best Western Gran Tree Inn, Bozeman, MT**  
1325 North 7th Ave. Bozeman, MT 59715  
(406) 587-5261



**BOOK BEFORE AUG. 1 2022 for the discount**



Many details on the website:  
<http://ag6v.com/MARAC/>

All rooms \$109. Working on the banquet meals this month – registration will open after that.

You can book your room now; no fee cancellations. No special code word for the discount, just say you are with the MARAC convention.

Submitted by Donna Hinshaw, **AG6V**. Please direct all questions and comments to [ag6v at arrl dot net](mailto:ag6v@arrl.net)



Convention Planner Donna, AG6V

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## Home and Mobile Shacks

This month featuring ???

This could be YOU!! Please submit pics of your home or mobile setup. We love to see what we are hearing on the air!

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## Eyeball QSO, N4RKK/K8ZZ

By Jeff, N4RKK

I had the privilege of meeting Ed, **K8ZZ** in person in Gainesville, FL while he was on his latest Florida mobile trip. First, I apologize to CHN for holding up Ed's starting time, but I had a lot of questions to ask and this was my first meeting with anyone affiliated with CHN so it was a special time for me. Thanks to everyone for their patience. Prior to our meeting, I had a great admiration for Ed's abilities to run mobile counties and his many contributions to our hobby. During our visit, I learned some things that added to my appreciation. I had always assumed that Ed was stationary when he ran counties, but I did not know that he operated on the fly except at county lines. When I was in my early 30s, I could operate while driving and handle all the sensory input at the same time. At age 72, I think it's remarkable that anyone my age or older can process CW, fight to hear weak stations, log contacts, navigate a route,

and watch for road hazards simultaneously. Now I better understand why Ed will send AS (wait) occasionally in order to take a breather.

It was also good to hear that Ed has his priorities in good order and he lets his principles govern his actions. Though he is serious about our hobby (as proven by his eleven mobile trips this year), he lets you know that there are other aspects of life that carry more weight. I need to keep that in mind the next time I miss a county I need.

It was great to put a face to K8ZZ and to see the essence of the person behind the call sign. Thanks, Ed, for going out of your way and off your route to make our meeting possible.

Jeff **N4RKK**

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## W0NAC.com All Things Digital

By Kerry **W4SIG**

As most of you know, Matt, **W0NAC**, is no longer able to maintain his web server. For many years, he kept this website up to date with submitted totals for digital county hunters. Would any of you like to volunteer to keep this going? From what I have been told, the server is paid up for another year. But the plug will be pulled after the first of the year if no one wants to take it over. Please let Terry, **WQ7A**, know if you are interested. Time is running out....

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# Eyeball QSO, K2MF/K8ZZ

By Barry, K2MF

It was a distinct pleasure to {once again} meet up with Ed K8ZZ, our club president, on his trip through FL to break bread with him for lunch yesterday. We've already done this at least two times before and it is always time well spent.

I want all of our club members to know that Ed is definitely out there, fulfilling MARAC's primary mission, which is to make the sport of county hunting enjoyable for all of us who chase counties, by traveling around in a mobile station and transmitting from them. To hear Ed talk about his over-the-road adventures, he is having as much fun giving out the counties as the rest of us are getting to work them!

I would therefore like to take this opportunity as 2021 passes into 2022 to sincerely thank those experienced mobile operators who frequently go out on the road to help the rest of us achieve our goals. Let's all go out of our way to thank a mobile operator or two this month when we get a moment, particularly those who, like Ed, tirelessly give of themselves and their pocketbooks month after month every time they go out and run counties for us! You all know exactly who they are. :)

Happy new year to all of my MARAC friends and let's hope for a really good 2022!

73 Barry K2MF

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## MARAC General Counsel Opening

By Bill, K0DEQ

**OPENING! GENERAL COUNSEL FOR MARAC NEEDED**

MARAC GENERAL COUNSEL DUTIES:

The general counsel for MARAC is responsible for providing legal advice to the officers, directors and other officials of MARAC concerning the business and activities of the corporation.

This includes reviewing proposed contracts with the venue at which a MARAC meeting is to be held, as well as giving advice concerning communications received by MARAC relating to possible legal issues.

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# **MARAC Publicity & Advertisement Chairman Opening**

**By Kerry W4SIG**

## **VOLUNTEER OPENING! MARAC PUBLICITY & ADVERTISING CHAIRMAN NEEDED**

A new position has officially been created by the MARAC Board. Might YOU be interested in volunteering for this new position? The intent is to promote county hunting and MARAC to increase involvement and membership.

MARAC Publicity & Advertising Chairman duties:

- Advertise and promote MARAC and County Hunting to the Ham Radio community.
- Design posters, palm cards, and other promotional materials.
- Oversee the creation of promotional materials for shows, magazines and clubs.
- Actively promote County Hunting and MARAC on Social media as appropriate.
- Recruit new County Hunters from those who are active on State QSO Parties.



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# MARAC Contest Manager Opening

By Kerry W4SIG

## VOLUNTEER OPENING: MARAC PUBLICITY & ADVERTISING CHAIRMAN NEEDED

Folks, it has been a few years since we have had a MARAC sponsored contest. For many years we had significant participation around the country with many new county hunters joining in. However, for various reasons, this contest has been a no-go for awhile. We would like to get it rolling again! We need a volunteer to chair the contest...could this be YOU??? Here are the requirements for the MARAC Contest Chairman position:

### MARAC Contest Manager Duties:

- Shall be appointed by the MARAC Board
  - Shall spearhead MARAC sponsored contests, usually yearly
  - Shall create the rules for MARAC sponsored contests
  - Shall publicize in advance any upcoming MARAC sponsored contest in whichever means determined to be effective
  - Shall receive and calculate scores from submitted logs and announce winners
  - Shall mail results to everyone who submitted a log
  - Shall communicate to Awards Secretary the award recipients in order to have the awards created and mailed
-

# Final Countdown

## Kerry-W4SIG

The following MARAC Members need less than 10 counties for the “Whole Ball of Wax”, also known as WBOW. Let’s give them a hand! If you have less than 10 to go in the entire country for any MARAC Award please send those needs to Kerry, W4SIG, for inclusion in this new monthly article. Please keep me updated as these lists dwindle so we have accurate info for mobiles that want to help you out.

### **K2MF**WBOW CW-II

**VT:** Windham

### **K2MF-** WBOW CW MOBILES

**AK:** 2<sup>ND</sup>, 4<sup>TH</sup>

**HI:** Hawaii, Honolulu

**SC:** Georgetown

### **W4SIG**/WBOW W PREFIX

**AK:** 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, **HI:** Kauai, **IN:** Spencer, **NH:** Coos, Sullivan, **NJ:** Hudson

### **W4SIG**/WBOW 1X3 CALLSIGNS

**AK:** 2<sup>ND</sup>, 3<sup>RD</sup>, 4<sup>TH</sup>

### **W4SIG**/WBOW 1X2 CALLSIGNS

**ME:** Aroostook, Piscataquis, Somerset, Waldo, **MA:** Dukes

### **W4SIG**/WBOW ALL CW 3<sup>RD</sup> TIME

**HI:** Kalawao

### **W4SIG**/WBOW BINGO III

**HI:** Kalawao

### **N4RS** – WBOW 40m Using CW Only

**AK:** 2<sup>nd</sup> District

### **KC3X** – WBOW 40 Meters

**MT:** Daniels, Pondera, Prairie, **OR:** Sherman

### **N5MLP** – WBOW A Prefix

**AR:** Arkansas, **LA:** Grant, Vermillion, Vernon, **MS:** Issaquena, **TN:** Hardeman, Houston, Marshall, **VA:** Mathews, **WA:** Garfield

### **N5MLP**—WBOW Bingo IV

**AK:** Fourth, **CA:** Lake, **HI:** Kalawao, **WA:** Columbia, Garfield

**N0KV**—WBOW K Prefix

**ID:** Teton, **NE:** Nance, **SD:** Haakon, **WV:** McDowell, **WY:** Goshen

**N0KV**—WBOW Mobile to Mobile

**GA:** Wheeler, **KY:** Knott, Larue, Menifee, **NC:** Catawba, Lee, **VA:** Lunenburg, Mathews

**K4YT** -WBOW 4<sup>th</sup> Time

**HI:** Kalawao

**K4YT** – WBOW 1x2 Calls

**LA:** Assumption, **MS:** Jefferson

**K4YT** – WBOW Mobile to Mobile

**CA:** Marin, Nevada, San Joaquin, Yolo, **MD:** Calvert, **OR:** Benton, Coos

**K4YT** – WBOW A Prefix

**MS:** Holmes, Issaquena, Lafayette, Sharkey, Winston. **TN:** Perry. **VA:** Craig

**K0MAF**- WBOW USACA 1<sup>st</sup> Time

**IA:** Cherokee, Emmet **KY:** Monroe **MN:** Pennington

**NF0N**—WBOW N Prefix

**IA:** Palo Alto, Winnebago, **ME:** Franklin, **MN:** Benton, **ND:** Griggs

**W4YDY**/ WBOW CW 2ND TIME

**OR:** Crook

**W4YDY**/WBOW A PREFIX

**MS:** Oktibbeha **OH:** Putnam **PA:** Philadelphia **VA:** Amelia, King William

**W4YDY**/WBOW W PREFIX

**AK:** First J. D. S E **NY:** Essex, Montgomery **OR:** Sherman **PA:** Tioga **SC:** Union **TX:** Dickens, Runnels, Somervell **VA:** Floyd

**WA3QNT**—WBOW MASTERS GOLD

**AK:** 2nd Dist **IN:** Morgan **PA:** Bucks **NY:** New York, Yates

**NU0Q** – WBOW MASTER GOLD

**AK:** 4<sup>TH</sup> District

**NU0Q**/ WBOW MASTER PLATINUM

**IA:** Franklin, Hamilton, **MD:** Worcester, **NJ:** Hunterdon, **OH:** Darke, **PA:** Cameron, Dauphin, Lebanon, Potter

**K5WAF**- WBOW SSB**GA:** Rabun **LA:** Assumption, **TX:** Calhoun, **WV:** Morgan**K5WAF**- WBOW CW**GA:** Crawford, **KY:** Magoffin, Todd, **NY:** Greene, **TX:** Houston, Karnes, Nacodoches**K4CGY**- WBOW USACA**GA:** Quitman, **ME:** Franklin, **MN:** Lake of the Woods**W9DC**- WBOW MASTERS GOLD**AL:** Bibb, **AK:** 3<sup>rd</sup> District, **TN:** Lawrence, **NC:** Scotland, **TX:** Swisher**W9DC**- WBOW 5 STAR**AL:** Bibb, **NC:** Gaston, Scotland, **TN:** Hamblen, **VA:** Buchanan**W9DC** – WBOW 5<sup>th</sup> TIME**HI:** Kalawao, **KY:** Elliott, Morgan, **LA:** La Salle, Red River, Union, **TX:** Terrell**K1RO** – WBOW USA-CA**LA:** Avoyelles, **MS:** Tippah, **TX:** Lipscomb, Moore,**WQ7A** – WBOW ALL PREFIXES**NY:** Hamilton**K0PFV** WBOW 4<sup>th</sup> Time**KY:** Elliott**NS2N** – WBOW 6<sup>TH</sup> Time**GA:** Crawford, **MT:** Lincoln, **TN:** Warren, **TX:** Houston, **VA:** Wise**NS2N** – WBOW 20 Meters**IN** Delaware, Marshall, **KY** Kenton, Woodford, **OH** Shelby, **PA** Wayne, **WV** Wetzel

Remember to keep me updated as you scratch off any of these that you need. I want to keep this list up-to-date. Many have completed their awards from this column as mobiles are aware of the few you may have to finish them up. Always glad to add YOUR needs to this column!

# Awards Committee

Ron-N5MLP

## Awards Issued November 25 through December 26, 2021

| Awards Issued: |                      |                      |       |           |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------|-----------|
| Call           | Date of Last Contact | Award                | Level | Cert. No. |
| KC5P           | 1/13/1990            | RAS* - DE - 1st Time |       | 78        |
| WQ7A           | 1/19/2021            | USA - Digital        | 2000  | 7         |
| N8OYY          | 11/13/2021           | County Challenge     | 11000 | 5         |
| N8OYY          | 11/27/2021           | RAS* - WV - 4th Time |       | 1         |
|                |                      |                      |       |           |
|                |                      |                      |       |           |
|                |                      |                      |       |           |

| Roadrunner Awards Issued:      |                      |            |           |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|------------|-----------|
| Call                           | Date of Last Contact | L C Count: | Cert. No. |
| N8OYY                          | 11/27/2021           | 275        | 85        |
| AB7NK                          | 12/2/2021            | 1,100      | 9         |
| K8ZZ                           | 12/20/2021           | 1,150      | 7         |
|                                |                      |            |           |
| Legend of Abbreviations:       |                      |            |           |
| RAS* = Ran All State           |                      |            |           |
| WAC* = Worked All USA Counties |                      |            |           |

### MARAC Awards Committee



N5MLP – Ron Clift, MARAC Awards Manager

# MARAC Treasurer's Report

Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club

Treasurer's Report (K0DEQ)

NOV 20, 2021 Through Dec 19, 2021

Beginning Account Balance \$18,887.73

Income:

|                            |        |          |
|----------------------------|--------|----------|
| Savings Account Interest   | \$     |          |
| Awards Income              |        |          |
| Misc Income                |        |          |
| Membership Income          | 136.50 |          |
| Logger Distribution Income | 18.93  |          |
| Donation                   |        |          |
| Total Income               |        | \$155.43 |

Expenses:

|                                 |          |  |
|---------------------------------|----------|--|
| Awards Expenses                 | \$ 34.72 |  |
| Misc. Expenses                  |          |  |
| Office Expenses (Postage, etc.) |          |  |

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|                          |             |             |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total expenses           | \$34.72     |             |
| Net Income Less Expenses |             | \$ 120.71   |
| Cash Balance             |             | \$19,008.44 |
| Checking Account Balance | \$ 2,978.20 |             |
| Savings Account Balance  | _16,030.24  |             |
| Total all accounts       |             | \$19,008.44 |

From a balance sheet perspective, MARAC cash balance shown above should be discounted by \$6393, which is the amount of award fees pre-paid by members. After subtracting this amount, the true (spendable) Cash Balance is \$12,615.44



**Bill KODEQ- MARAC Treasurer**

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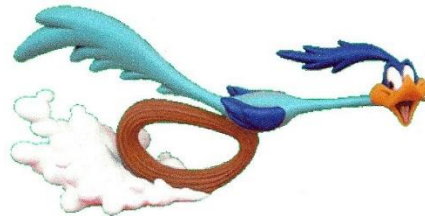
# 2022 State QSO Parties

Courtesy of WA7BNM

State QSO Parties for 2022 will kick off soon! Here is an advanced look at February:

|                |  |                                      |
|----------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Vermont        | <a href="#">+</a> Vermont QSO Party        | 0000Z, Feb 5 to 2400Z, Feb 6, 2022   |
| Minnesota      | <a href="#">+</a> Minnesota QSO Party      | 1400Z-2400Z, Feb 5, 2022             |
| South Carolina | <a href="#">+</a> South Carolina QSO Party | 1500Z, Feb 26 to 0159Z, Feb 27, 2022 |
| North Carolina | <a href="#">+</a> North Carolina QSO Party | 1500Z, Feb 27 to 0100Z, Feb 28, 2022 |

## *The County Line ROADRUNNER*



*“A Roadrunner Is A Very Fast Bird”*

Monthly Deadline for Articles is the 25<sup>th</sup>!

## Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club Leadership Team

### Board of Directors

**President:** Ed Eklin, K8ZZ  
1426 SW Summit Woods Dr Apt 3, Topeka, KS 66615  
231-649-4747, [ed.eklin@gmail.com](mailto:ed.eklin@gmail.com)

**Vice-President:** Bill Wallace, K1YAG

1971 Aviation Loop  
Fredericksburg, TX 78624  
[flybillythekid@aol.com](mailto:flybillythekid@aol.com)

**Secretary:** Randy Foltz, K7TQ

809 Leith St, Moscow, ID 83843

208-874-3333, [rbfoltz@gmail.com](mailto:rbfoltz@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Bill Morgan, K0DEQ

12012 County Road 3000, Rolla, MO 65401  
573-465-5405, [billmorgan1@centurylink.net](mailto:billmorgan1@centurylink.net)

**Dues with an Electronic copy of the Newsletter copy are \$10.00 per year, check or money order.**  
Dues may also be paid via Pay-Pal and directed to [treasurer@marac.org](mailto:treasurer@marac.org)



**Great Lakes Director:** Darl Deeds, NA8W  
8753 Township Rd 48, Findlay, OH 45840  
419-421-1533, [na8w@arrl.net](mailto:na8w@arrl.net)

**MARAC General Counsel:** Vacant

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

**Publicity & Advertising Chairman:** Vacant

**Northeast Director:** Al Kaiser, N1API  
194 Glen Hills Rd, Meriden CT 06451  
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**South Central Director:** Janet Camron, KC5QCB  
7641 Gladiola, San Angelo, TX 76901,  
325-812-3234, [jcamron279@gmail.com](mailto:jcamron279@gmail.com)

**Pacific Director:** Paige Butler, W0FLZ  
21922 36th Ave NW, Stanwood, WA 98292  
360-652-4680, [W0FLZ62@gmail.com](mailto:W0FLZ62@gmail.com)

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

**Immediate Past President:** Vacant

## Appointed Positions

**Awards Manager:** Ron Clift, N5MLP  
10719 Lake Windcrest, Dr, Magnolia, TX 77354  
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**IT Director:** Donald Flynn, K3IMC  
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**Custodian, Club Call:** Mike Nickolaus, NF0N  
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**Election Coordinator:** Ron Wilcox, KF7ZN  
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208-369-0566, [rglogan73@gmail.com](mailto:rglogan73@gmail.com)