



THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

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Thoughts from the Board

Kerry, W4SIG MARAC Southeast Division Director

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

This issue of the *RoadRunner* hopes that all hams of our county hunting community have a safe, healthy, and prosperous 2023 filled with new counties in the log over the next 12 months. Now that **K4YT** provided a much-needed activation from Kalawao, many of us can begin our “next time around” for numerous MARAC awards.

Wow, that was a brutal winter storm over the holidays! Hopefully everyone is thawing out and antenna damage was minimal. The record cold weather put a halt on a lot of family travel and mobile runs at the end of December. And if you are in Buffalo, maybe you can start to see over the huge piles of shoveled snow by now. There are some nice mobile plans for January with a big **K8ZZ** trip planned for most of the month from MN down to FL and back. I hope Ed takes some time to enjoy the warmer weather in the Sunshine State before he does his U-Turn and heads back north to the frozen tundra.

Sunspots are looking great! If you haven't spent much time on 17meters and

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higher bands, you have been missing out on a lot of nice activity. Also, being very late in the game, I think I will dip my toe into FT8 in 2023. So much activity on that mode that I have been missing...

Your MARAC Board and position appointees have again been working tirelessly behind the scenes for all members. In 2022, we had three official

meetings and over a dozen working sessions via conference calls throughout the year. We have been working with Don, **K3IMC**, with ideas on his Logger II development. Steady changes and additions are coming to the MARAC website. We now have an Advertising and Publicity Coordinator. MARAC has had presence at both Dayton and Orlando hamfests. And we may have news soon about the return of the annual MARAC Sponsored County Hunting Contest! There are many issues that we also address throughout the year to try and make sure that all MARAC operations flow smoothly. We aren't perfect, but we do try hard. Next time you get a chance to do so, please thank your MARAC club volunteers who work so hard for you.

As *RoadRunner* editor, I try to provide interesting and relevant material to you each and every month. However, the newsletter is only as good as the content provided by YOU. Please send me anything you think might be of interest or entertainment. Even if it is not in perfect format, I will work with it as best I can. After all, you don't want just me creating all the articles, Hi! Also, if you have ideas of what YOU would like to see in the newsletter please let me know and I will do my best.

In this issue of the *RoadRunner*, take note of the recent Service Awards issued to some very deserving folks like **AG6V**, **AG6OW**, **K7SEN**, **AA9JJ** & **N9QPQ**. Also, review the awards issued this month and take the time to congratulate your fellow members on their fine accomplishments. Of special note this month is USACA 1st Time for **OM2VL** and **W6OAT**! Also, Whole Ball of Wax awards to **AB7NK** for SSB, **N1API** for 5th Time, **W4SIG** for 5th Time, Bingo III, and CW III (thanks Karl!). There are RoadRunner Awards for **K8ZZ** 1,500 Level and **K2HVN** 1,000 Level. And County Challenge Awards for **K5GE** 25,000 Level and **K8ZZ** 23,000 Level. Wow!! You will also find interesting articles regarding HOA antenna regulations and some shakeup in Connecticut counties.

Let's work together to make 2023 the best year yet! Help those mobiles out as best you can with spots and relays. Please volunteer any way you can. Maybe jump into an opening within the club. Take care and see you on the air!

73!



MARAC Service Awards Issued

By Kerry W4SIG

It is with pleasure that the MARAC Board announces new club Service Awards for several very deserving individuals! Here is the scoop on the wording of the proposals:

- 1) After three years of planning and coordination, the 2022 MARAC National Convention in Bozeman, MT was a tremendous success! It was all due to the hard work and diligence of Donna, **AG6V**. Along with the Board, all the members of MARAC express their sincere gratitude to Donna for her making sure that this convention was an excellent experience for all. For this reason, we would like to propose that Donna, **AG6V**, be awarded the MARAC Lightning Leo Outstanding Service Award!



- 2) In October of 2022, MARAC members enjoyed the club's National Convention in Bozeman, MT. Donna, AG6V, worked hard to make sure it was a tremendous success. To do so, she recruited the assistance of Linda, **AG6OW**. Linda was an integral part of the convention, helping out in every aspect of its production. She was there assisting from initial check-in all the way through to the awards presentation at the reception dinner. For her hard work in making sure the National was a great success, we are proposing that Linda, **AG6OW**, be awarded a MARAC Certificate of Appreciation



AG6OW

3) For many years, Neil Vince **K7SEN**, has traveled the country attending MARAC Mini and National Conventions anxiously prepared to assist fellow members with their mobile setups, whether to set up a new antenna system, trouble shoot existing problems, or tweak an existing mobile station to ensure it operates at peak performance. Neil brings not only his willingness to share his technical expertise to the conventions, but also a vehicle full of spare parts, extra antennas, and testing equipment. Dozens of MARAC members have benefitted from Neil’s outpouring of assistance to their stations. We all owe Neil an abundance of gratitude for his outstanding service to fellow county hunters! For these reasons, we would like to propose that Neil Vince, **K7SEN**, be awarded a MARAC Outstanding Service Award!



K7SEN



- 4) For nearly two decades, AA9JJ/N9QPQ have been a proficient mobile team. During this time, the membership voted them Mobile Team of the Year (MTOTY) 14 times. Eight as 1st place, three as 2nd and three as 3rd. Together, Frank & Kay have received 2,387 last counties. As a team, they've transmitted from all 3077 US Counties, in addition to numerous other awards. Due their participation as a team at such a high level in the county hunting community earns them the honor of the MARAC Lifetime Achievement Award.

**N9QPQ****AA9JJ**

Important ARRL Bulletin

By Mary, AB7NK

An interesting ARRL Bulletin came out on Dec 23, 2022 regarding the easement of Amateur Radio antenna regulations in HOAs. Please read the Bill that was introduced to Congress:

Rep. Bill Johnson Introduces Bill to Eliminate Private Land Use Restrictions on Amateur Radio

Congressman Bill Johnson (OH-6) introduced a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives ([H.R.9670](#)) on Thursday, December 22, 2022, to eliminate private land use restrictions that prohibit, restrict, or impair the ability of an Amateur Radio Operator from operating and installing amateur station antennas on property subject to the control of the Amateur Radio Operator.

The exponential growth of communities subject to private land use restrictions that prohibit both the operation of Amateur Radio and the installation of amateur station antennas has significantly restricted the growth of the Amateur Radio Service. These restrictions are pervasive in private common interest residential communities such as single-family subdivisions, condominiums, cooperatives, gated communities, master-planned communities, planned unit developments, and communities governed by community associations. The restrictions have particularly impacted the ability of Amateur Radio to fulfill its statutorily mandated duty of serving as a voluntary noncommercial emergency communications service.

Congress in 1996 directed the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to promulgate regulations (Public Law 104-104, title II, section 207, 110 Stat. 114; 47 U.S.C. 303 note) that have preempted all private land use restrictions applicable to exterior communications facilities that impair the ability of citizens to receive television broadcast signals, direct broadcast satellite services, or multichannel multipoint distribution services, or to transmit and receive wireless internet services. ARRL attempts to obtain similar relief for Amateur Radio were rejected by the FCC with a statement such relief would have to come from Congress.

ARRL Legislative Advocacy Committee Chairman John Robert Stratton, N5AUS, noted that Congress, in 1994 by Joint Resolution, S.J.Res.90/H.J.Res.199, declared that regulations at all levels of government should facilitate and encourage the effective operation of Amateur Radio from residences as a public benefit. He continued by

stating that "H.R.9670, the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act, is intended to fulfill that mandate and preserve the ability of Amateur Radio Operators to continue to serve as a key component of American critical communications infrastructure."

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, and Mr. Stratton both extended on behalf of the ARRL, its Members, and the Amateur Radio community their thanks and appreciation for the leadership of Rep. Johnson in his tireless efforts to support and protect the rights of all Amateur Radio Operators.

No Counties in Connecticut?

By Kerry W4SIG

An interesting situation has been forming in the Nutmeg State. At the MARAC National It was noted that CT officially did away with counties many years ago. N1API noted that there are no county signs in CT. There will no longer be county governments in the state as of 2023. What happens when the individual county lines are no longer visible on GPS? One would have to rely upon old maps to know where the old county borders are. For now, the MARAC Board will do nothing unless CQ Magazine makes a change in their rules regarding CT. NX0X states that as long as he is in charge of the CQ Magazine USACA Award program, he anticipates no change. If a future CQ Awards Manager makes a change it will probably be something like what is currently done for Alaska.



More on Kalawao County

Alan, W8OP

While we are recovering from the Kalawao expedition by Karl, **K4YT**, and reviewing his pictures he took while there, Alan, **W8OP**, came across this nice 5 minute Youtube video on Kalawao. It is quite interesting and is worth a view. Check it out at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y8tt5tt_sfs

Bob, **N4CD**, states that when the remaining 90 or so aging residents of the county either pass on or move away that the county will probably be absorbed into Maui County. No one new is allowed to move there, so it will probably become a future ghost town.



Hawaii, but not Kalawao 😊

MARAC Contest Manager Opening

By Kerry W4SIG

VOLUNTEER OPENING: MARAC CONTEST MANAGER 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

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.

New Members

Kerry-W4SIG

Please join me in welcoming new MARAC members!

W4WRB- William Bee, R#4842, Bedford Cty TN

W8ZO- Paul Kluwe, R#4843, Henry Cty, TN

NH7C- Sid Ceasar, R#4844, Montgomery Cty, MD

KG6ITP – Mary Welsh, R#4845, Montgomery Cty, MD

Note: A new member questionnaire has been created by **Mary, AB7NK**, that is going out to new members in order to get to know them better and to introduce them to the other MARAC members.

Silent Keys

It is with sadness and respect that we note the passing of fellow county hunters. Prayers go out to their friends and family...

KA1NX- Nicholas Rafaelly, MD, R#1796, 5 Star Award, Bingo II, Worked All Counties 5 Times

Mr Ugly Award

By Percy, KA1JPR

Congratulations go to Don, **AE3Z**, for receiving the 2023 Mr. Ugly Award as selected by the 2022 holder, Percy, **KA1JPR**.

MARAC Booth at Orlando Hamcation

By Kerry W4SIG

Once again, MARAC will host a booth at the Orlando Hamcation Feb. 10-12, 2023. Bill, **K1YAG**, will be setting up and managing the booth again this year. We hope to advertise county hunting and MARAC to recruit some new award chasers and members. Please stop by and see Bill, K1YAG, and other county hunters while at the convention. Ought to be a lot of fun in the warm Florida skies and away from the frigid north this time of year!

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** CW Mobiles - **AK**: 2nd, 4th **HI**: Hawaii
- W4SIG** W Prefix - **AK**: 1st, 2nd **HI**: Kauai **NJ**: Hudson
- W4SIG** 1X2 Callsigns – **ME**: Piscataquis, Somerset **MA**: Dukes
- W4SIG** 40M CW – **NJ**: Ocean
- W4SIG** 30M -- **GA**: Talbot, **KY**: McCreary, **TN**: Fentress, **WA**: Ferry
- W4SIG** 20m SSB – **KY**: Russell
- W4SIG** ALL SSB – **AK**: 2nd **MN**: Pennington **NJ**: Hunterdon **PA**: Northhampton
- N4RS** 40M CW – **AK**: 2nd
- N5MLP** A Prefix – **LA**: Grant, Vermillion, Vernon **MS**: Issaquena **TN**: Hardeman, Houston, Marshall **VA**: Mathews **WA**: Garfield
- N5MLP** Mobile Diamond – **MA**: Franklin
- NOKV** K Prefix – **ID**: Teton **NE**: Nance **SD**: Haakon **WV**: McDowell **WY**: Goshen
- NOKV** Mobile to Mobile – **GA**: Wheeler **KY**: Knott, Larue, Menifee **NC**: Catawba, Lee

- VA: Lunenburg, Mathews
- K4YT** Mobile to Mobile – CA: Marin, Nevada, San Joaquin, Yolo MD: Calvert OR: Benton
- K4YT** A Prefix – MS: Issaquena, Sharkey TN: Perry VA: Craig
- K4YT** W Prefix – HI: Kalawao KY: Grayson, Magoffin Morgan NY: Lewis PA: Delaware WV: Hardy
- K0MAF** USA-CA – IA: Cherokee, Emmet KY: Monroe MN: Pennington
- W4YDY** A Prefix – MS: Oktibbeha OH: Putnam PA: Philadelphia VA: Amelia, King William
- W4YDY** W Prefix – AK: 1st NY: Essex, Montgomery OR: Sherman PA: Tioga SC: Union TX: Dickens, Runnels, Somervell VA: Floyd
- WA3QNT** Masters Gold – AK: 2nd NY: New York, Yates
- NU0Q** Master Gold – AK: 4th
- NU0Q** Master Platinum – NJ: Hunterdon OH: Darke PA: Cameron, Dauphin, Lebanon, Potter
- NU0Q** K Prefix – GA: Newton, White MN: Norman NC: Burke NE: Antelope, Howard NY: Essex WV: Monroe
- K4CGY** USA – CA – GA: Quitman ME: Franklin MN: Lake of the Woods
- W9DC** 5 Star – AL: Bibb
- W9DC** K Prefix – NE: Arthur, Webster WV: Tyler WY: Converse
- W9DC** 20 SSB – IN: Sullivan
- NS2N** 20 Meters – IN: Delaware, Marshall KY: Woodford OH: Shelby
- N2IGW** USA-CA – HI: Kalawao
- N2HVN** HI: Kalawao
- W8GU** USA-CA – AK: 2nd GA: Macon KS: Norton KY: Cumberland LA: East Carroll NE: Franklin, Hayes OR: Wheeler TX: Terrell
- K7SEN** Bingo II & Master Gold – NY: Jackson

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!

MARAC Treasurer's Report

Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club Treasurer's Report (K0DEQ)

Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club
Treasurer's Report (K0DEQ)
NOV 20 Through DEC 19, 2022

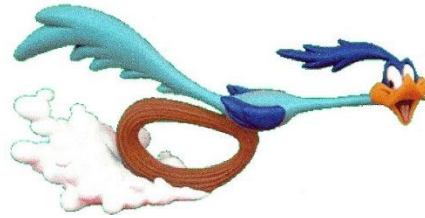
Beginning Account Balance		\$16,765.14
Income:		
Savings Account Interest	\$	
Awards Income	49.00	
Misc Income		
Membership Income	731.30	
Logger Distribution Income	20.00	
Donation		
Total Income		<u>\$800.30</u>
Expenses:		
Awards Expenses	\$ 206.15	
Misc. Expenses		
Office Expenses (Postage, etc.)		
Total expenses		<u>\$206.15</u>
Net Income Less Expenses		\$ 594.15
Cash Balance		\$ 17,359.29
Checking Account Balance	\$ 4305.81	
Savings Account Balance	<u>_13053.48</u>	
Total all accounts		\$ 17,359.29

From a balance sheet perspective, MARAC cash balance shown above should be discounted by \$6478, which is the amount of award fees pre-paid by members. After subtracting this amount, the true (spendable) Cash Balance is \$10,881.29



Bill KODEQ, MARAC Treasurer



The County Line ROADRUNNER*“A Roadrunner Is A Very Fast Bird”***Monthly Deadline for Articles is the 25th!****Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club Leadership Team****Board of Directors**

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231-649-4747 ed.eklin@gmail.com

Vice-President: Bill Wallace, K1YAG
flybillythekid@aol.com

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Bill Morgan, K0DEQ
573-364-1011 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

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Southeast Director: Kerry Long, W4SIG
901-331-1881, kerrylong@comcast.net

Immediate Past President: Vacant

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Publicity & Advertising Coordinator: Paige Butler W0FLZ
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MARAC Contest Coordinator: Vacant