



THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

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Thoughts from the Board

Paige, W0FLZ MARAC Pacific Division Director

When I wrote at the beginning of last year, one of the items I opened with was “Welcome to Sun Spot Cycle 25”. At that time there were a couple predictions about when and how high it would peak. The traditional NOAA forecast was a peak SN of about 125 with a SFI of 135 peaking in late in 2025, but the recent solar activity has just blown that prediction right out of the water with SN numbers approaching 200 and SFI will over 200 making current propagation really exciting and great expectations for the future of the cycle! All the high HF bands have been waking up right after sunrise for me here which has allowed me to work mobiles across almost all the bands 20 and up throughout the morning and early afternoon. I would like to thank all the mobiles that have recently been on the road getting those counties out there. I for one have managed to get quite a few new ones.

If you haven't already joined our group on **Facebook** make sure you look us up, join and share your County Hunting adventures and ideas and photos! It is there to

give us another venue to exchange thoughts and ideas.

In other club business, we are still looking for a volunteer to become the club Secretary and coming up later at the end of June, the terms of the North Central and South Central Directors are up and we will be having an election. The nomination window will open soon and this is your chance to volunteer to help out and be a

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part of guiding the club in to the future. Amateur radio is an ever-evolving hobby, and I hear many of you out there on the air in other radio activities, bring your knowledge, experience and ideas to MARAC and County Hunting!

Also, with the new year comes the start of State QSO Parties! These provide an excellent opportunity to work counties you may be missing for a particular state. Each state party has an associated website and there is almost always a link that shows counties that are expected to be activated as well as who will be activating counties mobile. Below are the next few weeks' parties.

Minnesota	02/04/2023	02/04/2023	<u>Minnesota Wireless Association</u>
Vermont	02/04/2023	02/05/2023	<u>Radio Amateurs of Northern Vermont</u>
South Carolina	02/25/2023	02/26/2023	<u>SC QSO Party</u>
North Carolina	02/26/2023	02/27/2023	<u>North Carolina QSO Party</u>
Idaho	03/11/2023	03/12/2023	<u>Idaho QSO Party</u>

See you on the air!

73, Paige, W0FLZ



MARAC Michigan Mini Announced!

By Dorie, N8WTQ

It's official! The 2023 MARAC Michigan Mini is being announced. Mega thanks to Dorie, **N8WTQ**, for picking up the torch on this excellent MARAC get-together. The dates are **April 20-22** at the Springhill Suites hotel in Midland, Michigan. The negotiated rate for each room is \$119 plus tax. Breakfast is included. There will be a conference room for us to gather in each day. Registration is \$30 with \$15 for the cost of each additional badge for spouses. Banquet tickets include dinner the last night at \$40 per person. Go to the marac.org website for a link to more info and to the Registration page. Or go straight to the link of MI-Mini.marac.org Time is short, so get your plans made soon. I will see you there!!!!



MARAC Board Meeting Jan 23

By Kerry W4SIG

On Jan 23 the MARAC Board held another successful meeting. The unofficial minutes are listed later in this issue of the *RoadRunner*. The highlights are clarifications in the Awards Rules in regard to Self-Credit for various awards and remote operations guidelines. This was a result of recent concern by some members over possible "remote mobile" and "robotic FT8" operations. Also, a change in the CHOTY nomination process was made in order to simplify the process. Many thanks to our Awards Manager, Ron **N5MLP**, for working diligently on this along with the Awards Committee. More can be read in Ron's Awards Committee report in this issue.

Kauai, Hawaii

By Kerry, W4SIG

Bob, N8KIE, is planning a flight over to Kauai on February 7th to run it for all of us. Watch the spotting page on that day and help with relays if you can. If you need it for any of the advanced awards, this is an excellent opportunity to grab it while you can. Thanks, Bob, and have a safe trip!

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!



County Hunter of the Year - 2023

By Ron, N5MLP

Nominations for County Hunter of the Year – SSB and CW Are Open As of 2/1/2023

It is time to begin the process of determining who the County Hunter of the Year is for both SSB and CW operation. This year the nomination process will be different than it was in previous years due to a significant change approved by the Board of Directors on January 23, 2023. A copy of the entire updated rule appears below for easy reference and it will be published in an update to the rules effective 1/23/2023 which should be posted on the website by February 1, 2023.

Important Dates Associated with the 2023 CHOTY Process:

- 2/1/2023 – Nomination period begins for both SSB and CW
- 2/1/2022 through 1/31/2023 – 12 month period of activity associated with nominations for 2023
- 3/15/2023 – Nomination period ends at 11:59pm Pacific Daylight Time. (Nominations must be received by the Awards Manager by that time).
- 3/16 through 4/19/23 – Awards Committee reviews nominations and determines up to three individuals who will appear as nominees for each category (SSB and CW) on the electronic ballot.
- 4/20/2023 – Awards Manager forwards the list of nominees for each category along with supporting documentation (nomination justification and biographical information) to the Election Coordinator for publication in the May, 2023 issue of the RoadRunner.
- 5/1/2023 – Nominee list and documentation appears in the May RoadRunner
- June 2023 – Election Coordinator conducts election via electronic voting service to determine winners.
- July 2023 – Winners announced during the Annual MARAC meeting

Revised Award Rule for CHOTY Was Approved by the Board on January 23rd

The revised rule changes the process where all nominations will be forwarded by the original nominator to the Awards Manager instead of one of the District Directors. There will be no limit on how many nominees in any particular category can be submitted from any specific district. The Awards Committee will review the nominations and decide which nominees will appear on an electronic ballot as described in the rule in accordance with dates specified above.

The complete revised rule for this award appears below:

County Hunter of the Year Award – SSB

County Hunter of the Year Award – CW

IN MEMORIAM:	The County Hunter of the Year Award - CW is in honor of Ed Sanders (WA6VJP, SK). Ed was a seven-time winner of the Net Control of the Year Award – CW, as well as a winner of the County Hunter of the Year Award - CW. Ed had one of the best "fists" in America and worked all counties on CW five times.				
OBJECTIVE:	To recognize members of MARAC who have made a significant overall contribution to MARAC and county hunting during the 12 months immediately prior to start of nominations for this award.				
SPECIAL RULES:	<p>The recipients of this award are determined by an annual ballot of the MARAC membership. The vote is conducted before each annual meeting. The nomination process for this award changed in January, 2023 and is described below:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="375 1522 1421 1959"> <tr> <td data-bbox="375 1522 446 1864">1</td> <td data-bbox="446 1522 1421 1864">NOMINEES: Nominees for this award must be active members of MARAC in good standing and whose membership has not expired at the time of nomination or at the time the voting ballot is prepared for distribution. As noted in criteria 3h below, the nominees for a particular category (SSB or CW) for this award cannot have been a winner in the prior two years in the same category.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="375 1864 446 1959">2</td> <td data-bbox="446 1864 1421 1959">NOMINATORS: The candidates for the award are nominated by any active MARAC Member in good</td> </tr> </table>	1	NOMINEES: Nominees for this award must be active members of MARAC in good standing and whose membership has not expired at the time of nomination or at the time the voting ballot is prepared for distribution. As noted in criteria 3h below, the nominees for a particular category (SSB or CW) for this award cannot have been a winner in the prior two years in the same category.	2	NOMINATORS: The candidates for the award are nominated by any active MARAC Member in good
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2	NOMINATORS: The candidates for the award are nominated by any active MARAC Member in good				

		standing at the time of nomination. Good standing includes having a membership which has not expired.
3		CRITERIA FOR NOMINEES: Criteria for consideration for County Hunter of the Year in either category include the following:
	a	Nominees for this award must be active members of MARAC in good standing and whose membership has not expired at the time of nomination or at the time the voting ballot is prepared for distribution.
	b	Quality and quantity of operating to provide Valid Contacts from multiple counties while in Mobile Operation or while assisting mobile county hunters as a Net Control Station (NCS), assistant NCS, or independent operator acting alone to announce mobiles or provide relay assistance.
	c	Participation in MARAC activities and service to MARAC and the members of MARAC.
	d	Other activities in support of county hunting.
	e	Technical proficiency in design or usage or implementation of enhancements to mobile operation or county hunting net operations. Overall amateur radio general support in a manner consistent with good operation and advancement of the hobby.
	f	Member qualification must be based on his/her activities during the previous 12 months, ending on the last day before nominations are accepted.
	g	MARAC Board members are eligible for this award. However, consideration should not be based upon their fulfillment of their board duties. Their consideration must be based upon activity outside of this such as mobile activity, net assistance activity, spotting activity, service to other members, and general overall enhancement of county hunting.
	h	A member of MARAC may receive this award multiple times for each category, however, only once every three years for the same category.

4	<p>NOMINATION JUSTIFICATION: Any member who desires to nominate someone must prepare a justification for the nomination including two specific sections, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Nominee's Activity/Contributions to County Hunting during the 12 month period ending the day before nominations are opened. This should include pertinent data listed in the Criteria for Consideration listed in section 3 above, andb) A summary of the biographical information concerning the nominee such as the date they were first licensed as an amateur radio operator, the number of years that individual has been a member of MARAC, officer or appointed positions in Marac previously/currently held by the nominee, and other interesting background information.
5	<p>NOMINATION DEADLINE: the date by which nominations must be received is specified in the MARAC RoadRunner newsletter when the opening of nominations is announced.</p>
6	<p>FORWARDING NOMINATIONS: All nominations and the associated justification documentation should be forwarded directly to the MARAC Awards Manager (who will in turn distribute it to the members of the Awards Committee).</p>
7	<p>The Awards Committee will meet and discuss the justification information submitted with each nomination to determine if that nomination should be placed on the ballot.</p>
8	<p>If the Awards Committee receives more than three nominations for a category, the Awards Committee will select up to three nominees for each category for the ballot.</p>
9	<p>If less than three nominations are received, the Awards Committee may (optionally) select additional nominees to bring the number of nominees for the ballot up to three.</p>

	10	If only one nomination is received and the Awards Committee declines to add any other nominees, the Awards Manager may declare that one nominee the winner in that category for that year.
	11	If multiple nominees were on the ballot for a category, then the winners will be held and announced at the annual meeting (usually in July of the same year the election is held).
AWARD LEVELS:	A MARAC special plaque is presented to the nominee in each category who receives the most votes. Certificates are presented to each of the other nominees on the ballot.	
APPLICATION AND FEES:	There are no fees for this award.	

Members ineligible to receive this award for the same category in 2023

Per section 3.h of the rule, individuals who have won the award (1st place) in the past two years are ineligible for consideration for the same category in 2023. For your reference, the names of those first place winners in the past two years are shown in the table below:

Category	2021	2022
SSB	K0DEQ – Bill Morgan	K3IMC – Donald Flynn
CW	K8ZZ – Ed Eklin	W0GXQ – Jerry Mertz



N5MLP – Ron Clift, MARAC Awards Manager

New Awards Feature on Website

By Don, K3IMC

[Examine the status of your recent Last County Applications](#)

For reasons I have never figured out, our web server is erratic in sending out confirmations that you have submitted an application for a last county award. It is likely that you no longer receive an email indicating that you submitted an application. With no other way to determine if your request was accepted and is awaiting processing, some county hunters submit a second application.

To help provide feedback to you to see if your request is there as well as the status of your recent requests, I have added a new feature to check the status of all your applications submitted over the last 90 days.

This feature can be found on the MARAC webpage by clicking on the “Awards” button in the main menu. A new sub menu list of buttons will appear. The first row of buttons will contain the buttons used to submit applications online. Immediately to the right of these buttons is a new button labeled “Check Submitted Application”. Clicking this button will present a new display allowing you to review the status of recent Last County Applications you have submitted to mobile county hunters. You can also review Last County Application that have been submitted to you while you were mobile. To use this feature, enter you call and click the desired option button.

In the future, you will be able to review your submitted Worked All County and Ran All State Application. At the moment however, these features are still under construction and are unavailable.



Don, K3IMC

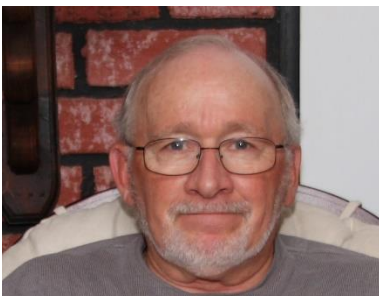
County Hunter CW Stats 2022

[Send your 2022 CW stats to nf0n@arrl.net](mailto:nf0n@arrl.net)

Updated
January 21, 2023

CALL	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
AA8R	3043 #2	3041 #2	3035 #2	3013 #2	3010 #2
AB7RW	2977 #4	2909 #4	2696 #4	2448 #4	1926 #4
AC0B					
DL3IAC				2740	
DL6KVA				3074	
K0DEQ					
K1TKL					
K2MF	3077 #2	3076 #2	3057 #2	2942 #2	2806 #2
K4AMC					
K4XI			3047 #3	3039 #3	
K5GE	3042 #3	2992 #3	2803 #3	2634 #3	2480 #3
K7DM					
K7REL	2972 #6				
K8IW			3077	3036	3035
K8OOK	2917		2845	2803	1798
K8TE					2910
K8ZZ			2191 #3	3077 #2	
KA4RRU	3072		3061	3046	
KA9JAC	2303 #2	2112 #2	1992 #2	1822 #2	1677 #2
KB0BA					
KC3X	2914 #6		3066 #5		2766 #5
KC5P			3036		
KC7YE	2618			2581	3576
KE3VV	2799 #3	2429 #3	757 #3		
KK7X			2268	2268	2258
KM6HB					
KN4Y				2073 #5	
N1API	3065		3047		
N1QY					3058
N2JNE					
N4CD	2821 #6		2788 #6	2701 #6	2687 #6
N4RS	2747 #6		1310 #6	3073 #5	3050 #5
N4XI					
N5MLP			1706		

N5PR					
N6PDB					
N7JPF			Now W7RRC	1170 #2	1063 #2
N8CIJ	1602 #2	1163 #2	568 #2	3075	
N9JF			239 #2	3075	3068
N9QS					
NF0N	1912 #3	1008 #3	3074 #2	3071 #2	3056 #2
NM1G					
NS2N	3066 #3	3053 #3	2941 #3		
NU0Q	3014 #3	2937 #3	2630 #3	1897 #3	872 #3
NX0X			2601		2601
SM6VR			2020 #2		2995 #2
W0GXQ	3059 #8	3031 #8	2741 #8	2187 #8	1005 #8
W0MU					
W3DLM				2982	2958
W3DYA					
W4SIG	266 #4		3072 #3	3063 #3	
W4YDY	185 #3	3076 #2	3075 #2	3073 #2	3070 #2
W6TPC				1295	1164
W7EEC			1466 #2		
W7FEN					
W8BZY	3077 #1	3063	2967	2613	2505
W8OP			2954	2858	
W9MSE					3074 #6
WA1ZIC			2954	2828	
WA3QNT					617 #2
WA4UNS					3077
WC5D					
WD4OIN	2946 #2		2764 #2		2379 #2
WE7G					
WQ7A				2963 #2	
WU3H					



Mike, NF0N

MARAC Contest Manager, John WA4JA

By Kerry W4SIG

The MARAC Board is excited to announce that John, **WA4JA**, has been nominated to be the new club Contest Manager! John has extensive contest experience and is actually working with other testers to try and create a N1MM logging module for our new contest. We will be patient as John works to work out all the details for the revival of our club's much anticipated County Hunting contest. More to come, thanks John!

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

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. Thanks, Mary, and we look forward to learning more about our new buddies!

County and Parks Cross Reference

By Bob, KA9JAC

An updated posting of the [U.S. KFF Park-County Lookup Page](#) is now available at countyhunter.com under [KFF-County].

If you still see the prior U.S. KFF Park-County Lookup Page displayed from your browser's cache, then force a new page load using the red **[Refresh Page]** button at the top of the U.S. KFF Park-County Lookup Page screen, or the page reload button in your web browser.

Last County Leaders

By Don, K3IMC

Another new Feature on the MARAC Website: You can view the Last County Leaders in order. A great way to see who has given out the most Last Counties from their mobiles.

Message: I have been wanting to do this for several years, but I just could not think how to do it. It turns out to take me less than 6 hours to code it once I figured out how to do it.

Go to the MARAC website and click on the "County Hunter DB" menu option. This will take you to the MARAC database page. Use the drop down under "Award Lookup". Slide the slider to the top and click on the "Last County Award Leaders". An ordered list of recipients of the Last County Award will be displayed.

We all knew **N4CD** was by far the highest recipient, but I did not know by how much. Second is **KB6UF**, but there is a real battle between **W0GXQ** and **K8ZZ**.

Awards Committee Opening Northeast District

By Kerry, W4SIG

Are you in the MARAC Northeast District? This would include **CT, MA, ME, NH, NJ, NY, RI, VT, VE1, VE2, VE9, VY2, Europe**. If so, your club could use your help. We have had an opening for a representative from this district to serve on the Awards Committee for several years. You would be involved in the decisions on any MARAC Awards rules changes or any new awards that are proposed. We have a very experienced and dedicated group on the committee, with our Awards Manager Ron **N5MLP** heading up the committee. Interested? Please contact Ron and let him know. We sure could use you!

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...

K0PFV, John Lord, MARAC #220, USACA#189, 2nd Time #326, 3rd Time #244, 4th Time #173, BINGO, RoadRunner Level 50

KD9ZP, Gene Olig, Sr, MARAC #2823, USACA#991, Bingo, County Hunter of the Year SSB 2004, RoadRunner Level 50, Multiple MARAC Custodian Awards, Service Awards, and a distinguished President's Award. Gene was the originator and creator of Logger for tracking all MARAC Awards.



Final Countdown

Kerry-W4SIG

The following MARAC Members need less than 10 counties for the “Whole Ball of Wax”, also known as WBOW for various awards. 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 --**WA:** Ferry
- 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
- N0KV** 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** USACA – **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
- W8OP** CW – **KY:** Morgan, **NY:** Chautauqua, Jefferson, Lewis, **OR:** Columbia, **TN:** Cocke, **TX:** Duval, **VT:** Orange, **WI:** Kewaunee

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 Report

By Ron, N5MLP

New Rules and a Rule Change Approved by BOD on 1/23/2023

The following two new rules were approved by the Board of Directors at a special board meeting on January 23, 2023. They have been added to the “General Rules and Definitions for MARAC Awards” section of the Award Rules document:

Robotic or Unattended Operation

All contacts for MARAC awards require that the operator be physically involved in each and every contact, without the aid of software that would otherwise make the contacts without the presence of the operator.

Self-credit

Self-credit is the ability for a mobile/portable operator to claim credit for their own needs in a county (stars, prefix (if applicable), Bingo Cinco credits, bands, etc.) which they transmit from as a reward for having made the effort to travel to that county and make contacts available to other operators. They must make at least one valid HF contact with another operator to claim any credits they have for themselves and for some awards both operators involved in the contact must have certain qualifying credentials (e.g., be a Bingo award holder, be a Master Gold award holder, etc.) for both operators to claim self-credit.

The capability to claim self-credit on 14 specific awards was added after the rules had been in place for those awards beginning in 2017. The MARAC Board of Directors meeting minutes for a meeting held on February 15, 2017 are published in the March, 2017 RoadRunner issue (available on the MARAC website). The following paragraph refers to the decision to make those changes:

“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.”

Use of self-credit features is optional. Some operators do not wish to use self-credit and are not required to implement that option. Logger 2 provides settings options where each user can specify whether or not they wish to use self-credit features of two different groups of awards. One group is the Bingo, Master Gold, Master Platinum, Mobile Diamond, and Double Diamond awards while the other group is a list of awards approved for self-credit since 2017.

All MARAC Awards that allow for credit or self-credit for transmission from a county require that the operator be physically located in that county.

Awards that have contained self-credit capability since their inception include:

- Master Gold Award
- Master Platinum Award
- Mobile Diamond Award
- Double Diamond Award

Note: The requirements to be able to claim self-credit for the above awards typically requires both operators involved in a contact to have certain credentials before self-credit can be claimed. Just making a contact with another operator does not qualify for self-credit unless those specific additional requirements are met. See each award’s description for details on requirements.

Awards that self-credit options were added to after their inception (in 2017 or later) include:

1. Worked All USA Counties Award (2nd time to Nth time)
2. USA-CW Award
3. USA-SSB Award
4. USA – Digital Award
5. YL/OM Team Award
6. YL Mobile Award
7. Five Star Award

8. Star XX Award (Twenty Star)
9. USA – Single Band Award
10. 5 Band Counties (Added in 2022, but start date made same as other awards)
11. USA Prefix Award (USA-PA)
12. USA – Call Sign Combo Award
13. Bingo – The Master County Hunter Award
14. Bingo Cinco Award

All contacts in the list above must have been made after 2/5/2017. Note: the wording on all these awards are not identical and the specific requirements for each different award must be met for self-credit to be counted on that award.

Note: This list of awards was accurate in January, 2023. If in the future some discrepancy is determined to exist between the list above and the specific rules for the awards named above (or other awards), the rule details of the exact award elsewhere in this document take precedence.

----- **End of new rule for Self-Credit** -----

Change to the County Hunter of the Year Award – SSB and CW

A significant change to the rule concerning County Hunter of the Year was approved by the board and will be utilized in nominating and selecting members for that honor during 2023. A separate article appears in this (February, 2023) issue of the RoadRunner which describes the new process for nomination of members and selection of the names which will later appear on the voting ballot. The process steps of conducting the electronic voting through the announcement of winners will remain the same as it was previously.

Note: The new and modified rules listed above will be published on the MARAC website in a new version of the Award Rules (under the Awards tab) dated 1/23/2023 as soon as possible.

[The Awards Issued table is lengthy and appears at the top of the next page]



Awards Issued December 25, 2022 through January 24, 2023

Awards Issued:					Roadrunner Awards Issued:			
Call	Date of Last Contact	Award	Level	Cert. No.	Call	Date of Last Contact	L C Count	Cert. No.
K8MW	4/1/2012	USA - Single Band - 20m	3,077	36	K8ZZ	7/19/2020	1,500	6
N1API	1/6/2021	USA - Call Combo 1x3	3,000	6	N5MLP	10/21/2022	350	63
N1API	3/16/2022	USA - Call Combo 2x3	2,000	9	AB7NK	12/11/2022	1,175	9
N8KIE	7/9/2022	USA - SSB	3,077	6	N8KIE	1/7/2023	1,275	7
N1API	10/1/2022	YL Mobile	2,000	12				
N1API	10/7/2022	YL/OM Team	2,000	17				
K8ZZ	10/18/2022	USA - Call Combo 1x2	3,000	4				
N1API	10/23/2022	USA - Call Combo 2x1	2,000	8				
K0DEQ	10/30/2022	USA - Call Combo 1x2	2,000	5				
K8ZZ	10/30/2022	USA - Call Combo 2x1	2,000	7				
K8ZZ	10/30/2022	USA - Call Combo 2x2	2,000	6				
K8ZZ	10/30/2022	USA - Single Band 17m	2,000	8				
K8ZZ	10/30/2022	USA - Call Combo 2x3	1,000	1				
K8ZZ	10/30/2022	USA - Single Band 80m	3,000	1				
K8ZZ	10/30/2022	USA - Single Band 15m	2,000	2				
K8MW	10/31/2022	USA - Single Band - 40m	2,000	5				
K8ZZ	10/31/2022	USA - Call Combo 2x3	2,000	8				
N1API	11/1/2022	USA - Call Combo 1x2	3,000	5				
K0DEQ	12/21/2022	YL Mobile	1,000	7				
K8MW	12/21/2022	USA - Single Band - 15m	1,000	11				
K0DEQ	12/21/2022	YL/OM Team	1,000	8				
K0DEQ	12/24/2022	County Challenge	18,000	4				
K8MW	12/27/2022	USA - Single Band - 17m	1,000	7				
K8ZZ	12/28/2022	USA - Call Combo 1x3	3,000	5				
K8MW	12/28/2022	USA - Single Band - 30m	2,000	6				
K8MW	12/29/2022	USA - Single Band - 160m	1,000	3				
K8MW	12/29/2022	USA - Single Band - 80m	1,000	10				
K8MW	12/29/2022	USA - Single Band - 80m	2,000	4				
N1API	1/7/2023	USA - Call Combo 2x2	3,000	2				
					Legend of Abbreviations:			
					RAS* = Ran All State			
					WAC* = Worked All USA Counties			

MARAC Awards Committee**N5MLP – Ron Clift, MARAC Awards Manager**

Unofficial Minutes of MARAC Board Meeting Jan 23, 2023

By Kerry, W4SIG

MARAC BOD MEETING AGENDA

Jan 23, 2023 9PM EST

Call Meeting to order. Time: 9PM EST

Board Members in attendance:

Officers: Pres, K8ZZ___; Vice President, K1YAG___, Secretary, Vacant___
Treasurer, K0DEQ__x_,

Directors: Great Lakes, Darl NA8W_x_, Northeast, Al N1API__x_, South Central, Janet, KC5QCB_x_, North Central, Mike, NF0N_x_, Pacific, Paige, W0FLZ_x_, Southeast, Kerry, W4SIG_x_

Guests: N5MLP

1. Agenda Changes/Modifications

A motion to add to the agenda a new item (designated #8) to consider setting date for next annual election and setting deadline for submitting nominations.

2. Motion to approve minutes of the BOD Meeting held on Dec 12, 2022.

Discussion:

Motion: NF0N 2nd NA8W Aye 7 Nay 0 Abstain 0

New Business:

3. Proposal that the BOD adopt all three of these optional sections listed below and be added under "Self-credit" in the General Rules and Defined Terms. This is being proposed to better clarify Self-Credit in regard to MARAC awards:

a. All MARAC Awards that allow for credit or self-credit for transmission from a county require that the operator be physically located in that county.

b. Awards that have contained self-credit capability since their inception include:

- Master Gold Award
- Master Platinum Award
- Mobile Diamond Award
- Double Diamond Award

Note: The requirements to be able to claim self-credit for the above awards typically requires both operators involved in a contact to have certain credentials before self-credit can be claimed. Just making a contact with another operator does not qualify for self-credit unless those specific additional requirements are met. See each award's description for details on requirements.

c. Awards that self-credit options were added to after their inception (in 2017 or later) include:

15. Worked All USA Counties Award (2nd time to Nth time)
16. USA-CW Award
17. USA-SSB Award
18. USA – Digital Award
19. YL/OM Team Award
20. YL Mobile Award
21. Five Star Award
22. Star XX Award (Twenty Star)
23. USA – Single Band Award
24. 5 Band Counties (Added in 2022, but start date made same as other awards)
25. USA Prefix Award (USA-PA)
26. USA – Call Sign Combo Award
27. Bingo – The Master County Hunter Award
28. Bingo Cinco Award

All contacts in the list above must have been made after 2/5/2017. Note: the wording on all these awards are not identical and the specific requirements for each different award must be met for self-credit to be counted on that award.

Note: This list of awards was accurate in January, 2023. If in the future some discrepancy is determined to exist between the list above and the specific rules for the awards named above (or other awards), the rule details of the exact award elsewhere in this document take precedence.

Discussion: This is necessary to further clarify existing rules.

Motion: _W0FLZ_ 2nd _K0DEQ_ Aye _7_ Nay __0__ Abstain_0__

4. Proposal regarding Robotic or Unattended Operation. A change in the General Rules should state:

All contacts for MARAC awards require that the operator be physically involved in each and every contact, without the aid of software that would otherwise make the contacts without the presence of the operator.

Discussion: This is necessary to further clarify existing rules that disqualify unattended operation contacts.

Motion _KC5QCB_ 2nd _N1API_ Aye _7_ Nay _0_ Abstain __0__

5. Proposal for a revision to CHOTY Award Rules:

Revision to County Hunter of the Year Award Rules

County Hunter of the Year Award – SSB

County Hunter of the Year Award – CW

IN MEMORIAM:	The County Hunter of the Year Award - CW is in honor of Ed Sanders (WA6VJP, SK). Ed was a seven-time winner of the Net Control of the Year Award – CW, as well as a winner of the County Hunter of the Year Award - CW. Ed had one of the best "fists" in America and worked all counties on CW five times.
OBJECTIVE:	To recognize members of MARAC who have made a significant overall contribution to MARAC and county hunting during the 12 months immediately prior to start of nominations for this award.
SPECIAL RULES:	<p>The recipients of this award are determined by an annual ballot of the MARAC membership. The vote is conducted before each annual meeting. The nomination process for this award changed in January, 2023 and is described below:</p> <p>1 NOMINEES: Nominees for this award must be active members of MARAC in good standing and whose membership has not expired at the time of nomination or at the time the voting ballot is prepared for distribution. As noted in criteria 3h below, the nominees for a particular category (SSB or CW) for this award cannot have been a winner in the prior two years in the same category.</p> <p>2 NOMINATORS: The candidates for the award are nominated by MARAC District</p>

	<p>Directors: any active MARAC Member in good standing at the time of nomination. Good standing includes having a membership which has not expired.</p>
	<p>Each District Director may select one nominee for each category (SSB/CW) to be placed on the ballot from among the nominees submitted by MARAC members from that Director's district.</p>
	<p>The District Director must receive nominations not later than the end of the fourth month preceding the annual meeting or by the deadline announced in the MARAC newsletter.</p>
	<p>The District Director must forward his or her selection and reasons for the nomination to the Awards Manager by the middle of the following month.</p>
3	<p>CRITERIA FOR NOMINEES: Criteria for consideration for County Hunter of the Year in either category include the following:</p>
	<p>a Nominees for this award must be active members of MARAC in good standing and whose membership has not expired at the time of nomination or at the time the voting ballot is prepared for distribution.</p>
	<p>b Quality and quantity of operating to provide Valid Contacts from multiple counties while in Mobile Operation or while assisting mobile county hunters as a Net Control Station (NCS), or assistant NCS, or independent operator acting alone to announce mobiles or provide relay assistance.</p>
	<p>c Participation in MARAC activities and service to MARAC and the members of MARAC.</p>
	<p>d Other activities in support of county hunting.</p>
	<p>e Technical proficiency in design or usage or implementation of enhancements to mobile operation or county hunting net operations. Overall amateur radio general support in a manner consistent with good operation and advancement of the hobby.</p>
	<p>f Member qualification must be based on his/her activities during the previous 12 months, ending on the first day that last day before nominations are accepted.</p>
	<p>g MARAC Board members are eligible for this award. However, consideration should not be based upon their fulfillment of their board duties. Their consideration must be based upon activity outside of this such as mobile activity, net assistance activity, spotting activity, service to other members, and general overall enhancement of county hunting.</p>
	<p>h A member of MARAC may receive this award multiple times for each category, however, only once every three years for the same category.</p>
4	<p>NOMINATION JUSTIFICATION: Any member who desires to nominate someone must prepare a justification for the nomination including two specific sections, including:</p> <p>c) Nominee's Activity/Contributions to County Hunting during the 12 month period ending the day before nominations are opened. This should include pertinent data listed in the Criteria for Consideration listed in section 3 above, and</p> <p>d) A summary of the biographical information concerning the nominee such as the date they were first licensed as an amateur radio operator, the number of years that individual has been a member of MARAC, officer or appointed positions in Marac previously/currently held by the nominee, and other interesting background information.</p>
5	<p>NOMINATION DEADLINE: the date by which nominations must be received is specified in the MARAC RoadRunner newsletter when the opening of nominations is announced.</p>
6	<p>FORWARDING NOMINATIONS: All nominations and the associated justification documentation should be forwarded directly to the MARAC Awards Manager (who will in turn distribute it to the members of the Awards Committee).</p>

	7	The Awards Committee will meet and discuss the justification information submitted with each nomination to determine if that nomination should be placed on the ballot.
	8	If the Awards Manager Committee receives more than three nominations for a category, the Awards Committee will select the up to three nominees for each category for the ballot.
	9	If less than three nominations are received from District Directors , the Awards Committee may (optionally) select additional nominees to bring the number of nominees for the ballot up to three.
	10	If only one nomination is received and the Awards Committee declines to add any other nominees, the Awards Manager may declare that one nominee the winner in that category for that year.
	11	If multiple nominees were on the ballot for a category, then the winners will be held and announced at the annual meeting (usually in July of the same year the election is held).
AWARD LEVELS:		A MARAC special plaque is presented at the MARAC annual convention to the nominee in each category who receives the most votes. Certificates are presented to each of the other nominees on the ballot.
APPLICATION AND FEES:		There are no fees for this award.

Discussion: This move will simplify the CHOTY nomination process as it eliminates several unnecessary layers. Also prevents situations where one District Director was put in a situation of only being able to forward the nomination of one district member when sometimes several were good candidates.

Motion: __N1API__ 2nd __NA8W__ Aye _7_ Nay _0__ Abstain_0_

6. Proposal to allot \$750 in MARAC funds to assist in planning and running the 2023 Michigan Mini.

Discussion: Board fully supports the Michigan Mini, however everything must be in place by Feb 1 to have enough time to be successful.

Motion: __W4SIG__ 2nd __KC5QCB__ Aye _7__ Nay _0__ Abstain_0_

7. Proposal to nominate John Almon, WA4JA, as MARAC Contest Manager.

Discussion: It was decided that this does not require a Board vote, but simply an appointment by the MARAC President.

Motion: __none__ 2nd _____ Aye _____ Nay _____ Abstain _____

8. The Board designates May 15, 2023 as the deadline for nominations to be submitted for candidates in this year's election for director positions in the North Central and South Central Districts, and the Board designates June 1, 2023 as the date for the election to be held if an election is required.

Discussion: Nominations should start 3/15 with an official announcement in the March RoadRunner.

Motion: _K0DEQ_ 2nd _N1API_ Aye _7_ Nay _0_ Abstain _0_

9. Motion to Adjourn

Motion: _KC5QCB_ 2nd _W0FLZ_ Aye _7_ Nay _0_ Abstain _0_
Time __9:30EST__

Open discussion with membership

MARAC Treasurer's Report

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

DEC 20,2022 Through JAN 19, 2023

Beginning Account Balance	\$17,359.29
Income:	
Savings Account Interest	\$
Awards Income	
Misc Income NOTE 1	1649.33
Membership Income	440.41
Logger Distribution Income	19.40
Donation	

Total Income		\$2109.14
Expenses:		
Awards Expenses	\$ 65.37	
Refund	39.00	
Misc. Expenses NOTE 2	240.00	
Office Expenses (Postage, etc.)		
Total expenses		\$344.37
Net Income Less Expenses		\$1764.77
Cash Balance		\$ 19,124.06
Checking Account Balance	\$ 3070.58	
Savings Account Balance	_16053.48	
Total all accounts		\$19,124.06

NOTE 1 -\$1649.33 net balance from 2022 national convention

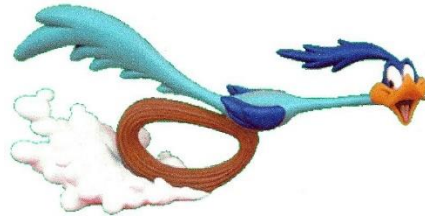
NOTE 2 – Annual fee to Dial Pad Meetings

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 \$12,646.08



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

President: Ed Eklin, K8ZZ
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 \$15.00 per year, check or money order. Dues may also be paid via Pay-Pal and directed to treasurer@marac.org

Great Lakes Director: Darl Deeds, NA8W
419-421-1533, na8w@arrl.net

North Central Director: Mike Nickolaus, NF0N
402-494-6070, nf0n@arrl.net

Northeast Director: Al Kaiser, N1API
n1api@cox.net

South Central Director: Janet Camron, KC5QCB
325-812-3234, jcamron279@gmail.com

Pacific Director: Paige Butler, W0FLZ
360-652-4680, W0FLZ62@gmail.com

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

Immediate Past President: Vacant

Appointed Positions

Awards Manager: Ron Clift, N5MLP
713-542-8999, N5MLP@comcast.net

Awards Secretary: Phil Yasson, AB7RW
360-213-8297, pyasson@pacifier.com

Historian: Mike Davis, N8MD
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Newsletter Editor: Kerry Long, W4SIG
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Sunshine Coordinator: Pat Reiner, KM6QF
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IT Director: Donald Flynn, K3IMC
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Webmaster: Bob Gedemer, KA9JAC
ka9jac@arrl.net

Custodian, Club Call: Mike Nickolaus, NF0N
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Election Coordinator: Ron Wilcox, KF7ZN
208-369-0566, rglogan73@gmail.com

MARAC General Counsel: Vacant

Publicity & Advertising Coordinator: Paige Butler W0FLZ
W0FLZ62@gmail.com

MARAC Contest Coordinator: John Alman, WA4JA
931-486-3091, almonj@mindspring.com