



# THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

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## Thoughts from the Board

By Kerry, W4SIG MARAC Secretary

'Tis the season to be Jolly! I know I sure am. November was somewhat of a slow month for mobile activity. But December has already picked up. **NF0N** made a nice run across Nebraska and **K4YT** has accumulated over 200 LC awards so far during his trip in the Northeast. Wow! Soon, some guy called Ed, **K8ZZ**, will be taking another mobile trip from MN to MI and back. Mary **AB7NK** and Neil **K7SEN** will be heading from AZ to TX to visit family for the holidays. And who knows who else will be hitting the road. Personally, I am gearing up for a huge family gathering at my house. So instead of planning a mobile route, I am cleaning house and stocking the fridge! It's amazing how 20-30 year olds can eat so much and volunteer to clean so few dishes! Hi!

Before you know it, we will be into Hamvention season. Mike, **NF0N**, has volunteered to man a MARAC sponsored booth. However, he needs some help. Mike does want to have some time to wander and spend some money on new gear. Is anyone planning on attending that may be able to man the booth for a few hours here and there to spread out the work? It's actually quite fun as many county hunters, including ones

from the past, will stop by to catch up, chat, and spin tales. Any takers? Please let me or Mike know asap so we can determine if we have the manpower to reserve a booth.

State QSO party season is still in hibernation. But come February it will kick back into gear. I will plan to list, as usual, the monthly parties as they come along in the RoadRunner.

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Any articles you might want to submit to the editor of the RoadRunner, please feel free to. Some might tire of my stories and we are sure there is a lot going on. So please send me an article; it doesn't matter if it's long or short. Could even be a copy of an article you read elsewhere that is worth sharing. I would love for someone to create an AI article like Phil, **AB7RW**, did many months ago.

Although my new QTH sits down in the canyon between beautiful tall peaks of the Zion National Park, the nearby area presents so many possibilities for a great antenna farm. There are lots of mesas at over 8,000 ft that I have my eye on. I am currently trying to find a location that is not blocked by the mountains and accessible by four-wheel drive that I can contract with BLM. Working on it, will keep you updated.

At this time of year, many of us celebrate the holiday season in different ways. We hope yours is full of warmth, family, cookies, and a lot of needed counties! Merry Christmas to all and a very Happy New Year!

Happy Hunting!

73

Kerry Long **W4SIG**

MARAC Secretary



## MARAC Michigan Mini

By Kerry W4SIG

The dates for the 2024 Michigan Mini are April 25-27 in Midland, Michigan. Dorie has the hotel all lined up and the marac.org website is all set up to accept your reservations. Please go ahead and make your reservations online and secure your MARAC group rate at the host Springhill Suites Hotel. Mark your calendars for this fun annual shindig. See you there!



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# 2024 MARAC National Convention

By Kerry W4SIG

It's official! The 2024 MARAC National Convention has been approved to be held on Oct 9-12 in **Bridgeport, West Virginia**! Please thank Alan-**W8OP**/Steve-**K8II**/Ed-**N8OYY** for volunteering to be co-hosts of next year's convention. Details can be found on the MARAC website under Events. Hotel reservations can be made now for the special rate. Convention registration will be available online early in 2024. In the meantime, mark your calendars to attend!



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## USACA Award Custodian Opening

By Kerry W4SIG

As mentioned last month, Brian, NX0X, has resigned as the *CQ Magazine* Award Custodian due to obligations with his work. This position processes and promotes the USACA Award which is critical to an influx of new hams to chase MARAC awards and join our club, USACA award recipients are where most new MARAC members come from. It is vital that this award be continued and supported. This position is critical to the continuance of the USACA award.

EXCITING NEWS!! Word has it that an very qualified individual has stepped forward to volunteer for this position. Communications are ongoing with *CQ Magazine*. Hopefully this position will be filled soon. We will keep you informed.

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**John, KE4UP and Ed, K8ZZ**

Our MARAC Prez, **K8ZZ**, continues to be a great ambassador for our club. He is always happy to stop by for a cup of coffee (or ice cream at the local Dairy Queen!) when he is close by. Let him know if he gets close to your neighborhood!

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## KFF Park-County Lookup Page

By Barry, K2MF

An updated posting of the [US KFF Park-County Lookup Page](#) dated **2023-12-04** is now available at [countyhunter.com](https://countyhunter.com) under [KFF-County].

If you still see the prior US 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 US KFF Park-County Lookup Page screen, or the page reload button in your web browser.

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# Logger Support Announcement

By Kerry W4SIG

This is a reminder....As mentioned in the opening article of previous months' RoadRunner, a new support structure has been created for support of the Logger program. PLEASE, everyone send ALL Logger questions/problems to Dave, **KE3VV**, [davidsplitt@erols.com](mailto:davidsplitt@erols.com). DO NOT send them directly to Logger programmer, Don, **K3IMC**. Dave will look over your issue and try to resolve it. If he cannot, he will package the issues and effectively relay them to Don for attention. This move is VERY necessary to alleviate the workload on Don. He is very busy making Logger the best program it can be and implementing new features all the time. So, everyone please remember this procedure when you have any issues with Logger. It will make everything flow more smoothly and allow Don to keep some of his hair! Hi!

## MARAC Awards Report

By Kerry, W4SIG

The following are the awards that were earned and processed for the last month. Congratulations to the award winner, NF0N!

Note, it was a slow month! December will be much busier with all the mobile activity!

<b>Awards Issued:</b>			
Call	Award	Level	Cert. No.

<b>Roadrunner Awards:</b>		
Call	LC Count	Cert. No.
NF0N	450	50

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# Opening - MARAC Awards Manager

By Kerry W4SIG

Please consider volunteering for this important MARAC role. Contact any Board member for more info. The description of the position is stated below.

## Responsibilities/Duties of the MARAC Awards Manager

1. Administers the MARAC Awards program in accordance with the policies and procedures adopted by the Board of Directors
2. Acts as the chairperson of the Awards Committee, which creates and considers proposals for new MARAC awards or changes to existing awards
3. Maintains the official MARAC Award Rules document and ensures that all rule changes are published in a timely manner after they are approved by the Board of Directors on both:
  - a. The MARAC Awards subsection of the MARAC website, and
  - b. The Awards Committee section of the monthly newsletter to members.
4. Initiates reviews of new awards or modifications to existing awards by the Awards Committee. Suggestions for award additions or modifications may originate from awards committee members, members of MARAC (including but not limited to officers/directors), or outside persons not currently members of MARAC.
5. Establishes the timeline for the process to determine winners of certain MARAC awards which occur on a recurring basis each year, including:

County Hunter of the Year – SSB/CW, Mobile of the Year-SSB/CW, Mobile Assist of the Year-SSB/CW, Mobile Team of the Year

6. Communicates to the Election Coordinator when electronic elections should occur to support the determination of award winners listed in section 5 above. Also, notifies the Election Coordinator during the execution of the process whether electronic elections will not be required for certain awards (e. g., County Hunter of the Year) if there was only one nominee identified during the nomination process.
7. Creates and publishes notifications in the monthly newsletter when the nomination process for County Hunter of the Year – SSB and CW actually begins and the subsequent deadlines that must be followed in order for members and Directors to complete and submit their nominations to support the determination process.
8. Ensures that the activities in items 5, 6, and 7 supports conclusions on each of the annual awards by June so that the information can be incorporated in the annual MARAC report to the membership and is announced at the MARAC annual meeting in July.
9. Responds to inquiries from the Board of Directors or any member concerning: a) award rules, or b) interpretation of the rules.
10. Oversees the activities of the Award Secretary to support:
  - a. Processing of applications for awards from members and non-members
  - b. Creation of certificates and plaques requested by members which are supported by electronic applications.
  - c. Reporting of cost expenditures for the awards function to the MARAC Treasurer who receives payments from members, pays invoices from plaque/award vendors, or reimburses the Awards Secretary for other expenses including office supplies, computer equipment purchase/maintenance, shipping costs, etc.
  - d. Timely reporting of awards issued to the membership using various vehicles including but not limited to the monthly newsletter articles and direct posts to the K3IMC forum or CountyHunter.com website.
  - e. Acquisition of plaques, trophies, etc. from appropriate vendors of such items.
11. Authors a monthly Awards Committee article to the *RoadRunner* editor (by the date specified by the *RoadRunner* editor) for inclusion in the monthly newsletter. As a minimum, one section of each month's article should include a summary of all awards issued during the month. Special topics within the article may address new award types which have been recently approved, clarification of award rules, changes in online application forms, information about known



award processing issues in the computer systems supporting awards, or other topics of interest regarding awards to the membership.

12. Handles awards related special tasks as assigned by the MARAC Board of Directors.

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## Silent Keys

Our thoughts and prayers go out to these members and their families:

**W0ULU**, Fred Schmidt, MARAC Member 1263, USA-CA #840: RoadRunner 25 counties, BINGO, Worked All Counties 3 Times

**K4DI**, Jim Lineburger, MARAC Member 4278, USA-CA #1194

**K8JP**, Joe Pontek, MARAC Member 618

**N9KEH**, James Forrest, MARAC Member 2685

**W7JY**, Lillie Gerald, MARAC Member 4568





## New MARAC Members

By Kerry-W4SIG

MARAC would like to welcome the following New Members as well as those who have rejoined after a lapse of membership of two years or more. We want every member to feel welcomed. If anyone has any questions, contact your District Director or one of the board members. We'll be glad to get you in touch with the proper person.

### *Welcome New MARAC Members*

**KB4JAA** Gail Pennebaker, MARAC # 4291, wife of **N4RS**

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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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# 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 and would love for you to join them. Interested? Please contact any Board member and let him know. We sure could use you!

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## 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 - **HI**: Hawaii
- W4SIG** W Prefix - **NJ**: Hudson
- W4SIG** 1x3 Callsigns --- **AK**: 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>
- W4SIG** 20 CW – **AR**: Scott, **GA**: Jasper Newton, **TN**: Cannon
- W4SIG** 20 SSB – **IA**: Lucas, **LA**: Bienville, Tensas, **TN**: Crockett
- W4SIG** 40M CW—**LA**: Avoyelles, **TX**: Foard, Runnels

- N4RS** 40M CW – **AK:** 2<sup>nd</sup>
- N5MLP** A Prefix – **LA:** Grant, Vermillion, Vernon **MS:** Issaquena **TN:** Hardeman, Houston, Marshall **VA:** Mathews **WA:** Garfield
- N0KV** K Prefix – **ID:** Teton **NE:** Nance **SD:** Haakon **WV:** McDowell **WY:** Goshen
- N0KV** 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, **MN:** Pennington
- W4YDY** A Prefix – **MS:** Oktibbeha **OH:** Putnam **PA:** Philadelphia **VA:** Amelia, King William
- W4YDY** W Prefix – **NY:** Essex, Montgomery, **PA:** Tioga **TX:** Dickens, Somervell **VA:** Floyd
- W4YDY** 1x2 Callsigns—**AL:** Perry, **AR:** Phillips, **FL:** Calhoun, **GA:** Montgomery, Wheeler, **IA:** Audubon, **TN:** Gibson, Meigs
- NU0Q** Master Gold – **AK:** 4<sup>th</sup>
- NU0Q** K Prefix – **GA:** Newton **NC:** Burke **NE:** Antelope
- NU0Q** 4<sup>th</sup> Time – **HI:** Kalawao, **IN:** Scott, **MI:** Allegan, **MO:** Adair, Wayne, **NY:** Orleans
- K4CGY** USACA – **GA:** Quitman **ME:** Franklin **MN:** Lake of the Woods
- W9DC** K Prefix – **NE:** Arthur, Webster **WV:** Tyler
- W9DC** CW – **GA:** Chattahoochee, Effingham, Jones, **KY:** Woodford, **PA:** Mercer
- W9DC** 1x3 Callsigns – **GA:** Grady, **NC:** Clay, Jones, **OK:** Kiowa,

**SC:** Laurens, **SD:** Haakon, **VA:** Nottaway

**W9DC:** Bingo III – **AR:** Madison, **KY:** Letcher, **NY:** Livingston, **OH:** Ross, **SC:** Cherokee, **TX:** Cottle, Swisher, Zavala, **VA:** Goochland

**NS2N** 20 Meters – **IN:** Delaware, Marshall **KY:** Woodford **OH:** Shelby

**N2IGW** USA-CA – **HI:** Kalawao

**W8GU** USA-CA – **AK:** 2<sup>nd</sup> **OR:** Wheeler

**N1API** N Prefix – **MA:** Nantucket, **MD:** St Marys, **MS:** Issaquena, **TN:** Moore

**N1API** W Prefix—**MD:** Worchester, **NC:** Warren, **NH:** Sullivan, **NY:** Richmond, Tioga, **VA:** Accomack, Buchanan, Northumberland, Page, Richmond

**N1API** 1x3 Callsigns—**MD:** Worcester, **NC:** Warren, **NH:** Sullivan, **NY:** Richmond, **VA:** Accomack, Buchanan, Northumberland, Richmond

**N8CIJ** 8th Time – **AK:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Dist, **IN:** Union, **MT:** Golden Valley, Treasure, **OR:** Gilliam

**N8CIJ** N Prefix – **TN:** Johnson, **WI:** Burnett

**N8CIJ** 1x3 Calls – **VA:** Charles City

**N8CIJ** K Prefix – **CO:** Hinsdale, **PA:** Forest

**KE3VV** Bingo IV – **NC:** Hertford

**KE3VV** 1x2 Calls – **MS:** Neshoba, **SD:** Turner

**W0GXQ** N Prefix – **VA:** Greene

**W0GXQ** Mobile Diamond – **RI:** Providence, **VA:** Hanover

**W0SK** USACA – **AR:** Phillips **HI:** Kalawao

**K0DEQ** All 20 Meters – **KY:** Bourbon, Harrison, **OH:** Lawrence, **TX:** Tyler

**K8MW** 2<sup>nd</sup> Time – **TX:** Goliad, Jim Hogg, Zapata

**W8OP** Bingo – **AL:** Perry, **FL:** Martin **HI:** Maui, **KS:** Chase, **NJ:** Hudson

**KC3X** USACA 13<sup>th</sup> Time – **TX:** Dewitt, Willacy

**K8II** USACA – **CA:** Del Norte, **HI:** Kalawao, **TX:** Dewitt

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!

## Treasurer's Report

By Bill, K0DEQ

Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club

Treasurer's Report

Oct 20 Through Nov 19, 2023

Beginning Account Balance		\$15,276.11
Income:		
Savings Account Interest	\$ 5.26	
Awards Income	35.00	
Misc Income		
Membership Income	144.29	
Logger Distribution Income	38.80	
Donation	25.00	
Total Income		\$ 248.35
Expenses:		
Awards Expenses	\$ 172.41	
Refund		
Misc. Expenses NOTE 1	28.75	
Office Expenses (Postage, etc.)		
MI Mini		
Nat'l Convention		
Total expenses		\$ 201.16

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Net Income Less Expenses		\$ 47.19
Cash Balance		\$15,323.30
Checking Account Balance	\$ 2747.57	
Savings Account Balance	12575.73	
Total all accounts		\$15,323.30

Note 1: Paid to K8ZZ for shipping expenses

From a balance sheet perspective, MARAC cash balance shown above should be discounted by \$6107.50, which is the amount of award fees pre-paid by members. After subtracting this amount, the true (spendable) Cash Balance is \$9,215.80



**Bill, K0DEQ**  
**MARAC Treasurer**

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## State QSO Parties

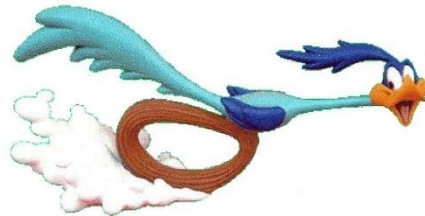
Courtesy WA7BNM

There are no State QSO Parties for this month. The next State QSO Party season begins in February.



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*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**

Dues may also be paid via Pay-Pal and directed to [treasurer@marac.org](mailto:treasurer@marac.org)

**Board of Directors**

**President:** Ed Eklin, K8ZZ  
231-649-4747 [ed.eklin@gmail.com](mailto:ed.eklin@gmail.com)

**Vice-President:** Bill Wallace, K1YAG  
[flybillythekid@aol.com](mailto:flybillythekid@aol.com)

**Secretary:** Kerry Long, W4SIG  
901-331-1881, [kerrylong@comcast.net](mailto:kerrylong@comcast.net)

**Treasurer:** Bill Morgan, K0DEQ  
573-364-1011 [BillMorgan213@gmail.com](mailto:BillMorgan213@gmail.com)

**Great Lakes Director:** Darl Deeds, NA8W  
419-421-1533, [na8w@arrl.net](mailto:na8w@arrl.net)

**North Central Director:** Mike Nickolaus, NF0N  
402-494-6070, [nf0n@arrl.net](mailto:nf0n@arrl.net)

**Northeast Director:** Al Kaiser, N1API  
[n1api@cox.net](mailto:n1api@cox.net)

**South Central Director:** Janet Camron, KC5QCB  
325-812-3234, [jcamron279@gmail.com](mailto:jcamron279@gmail.com)

**Pacific Director:** Paige Butler, W0FLZ  
360-652-4680, [W0FLZ62@gmail.com](mailto:W0FLZ62@gmail.com)

Dues with an Electronic copy of the Newsletter copy are \$15.00 per year, check or money order.



**Southeast Director:** Dave Splitt, KE3VV

202-669-6630, [davidsplitt@erols.com](mailto:davidsplitt@erols.com)

**Immediate Past President:** Vacant

## **Appointed Positions**

**Awards Manager:** Vacant

**Awards Secretary:** Phil Yasson, AB7RW

360-213-8297, [pyasson@pacifier.com](mailto:pyasson@pacifier.com)

**Historian:** Mike Davis, N8MD

507-454-5081, [avi8stormd@gmail.com](mailto:avi8stormd@gmail.com)

**Newsletter Editor:** Kerry Long, W4SIG

901-331-1881, [kerrylong@comcast.net](mailto:kerrylong@comcast.net)

**Sunshine Coordinator:** Pat Reiner, KM6QF

213-999-0100, [lovedoxies@aol.com](mailto:lovedoxies@aol.com)

**IT Director:** Donald Flynn, K3IMC

706-302-0725, [k3imc@bellsouth.net](mailto:k3imc@bellsouth.net)

**Webmaster:** Bob Gedemer, KA9JAC

[ka9jac@arrl.net](mailto:ka9jac@arrl.net)

**Custodian, Club Call:** Mike Nickolaus, NF0N

712-223-3164, [nf0n@arrl.net](mailto:nf0n@arrl.net)

**Election Coordinator:** Ron Wilcox, KF7ZN

208-369-0566, [rglogan73@gmail.com](mailto:rglogan73@gmail.com)

**MARAC General Counsel:** Vacant

**Publicity & Advertising Coordinator:** Paige Butler W0FLZ

[W0FLZ62@gmail.com](mailto:W0FLZ62@gmail.com)

**MARAC Contest Coordinator:** John Alman, WA4JA

931-486-3091, [almonj@mindspring.com](mailto:almonj@mindspring.com)