

MARAC NEWSLETTER

Number 1                      MOBILE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INCORPORATED                      10 June 1970

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The regular July MARAC meeting will be held in Knoxville during the Independent County Hunters "get-together". We are attempting to schedule that meeting at a time which will not interfere with the ICH activities. "New business" will be a lively part of the agenda judging by our mail. We have three vacancies on our Board of Directors to fill at that meeting. We need to discuss procedures for future election of officers. As we work to put the club into operation we have communications problems even among ourselves in the Kansas City area and we wonder about the problems which would result if the officers were scattered over the whole country. This is probably the single most important matter to discuss. All want MARAC to be a club for all it's members and we hope discussions in Knoxville will help us achieve that objective.

Our Kansas City group will make a strong pitch to the ICH meeting to come to Kansas City for the 1971 gathering. We will do so as individuals - NOT AS MARAC - since we feel the "Independent County Hunters" should remain totally independent. See you in Knoxville.

MINUTES OF MARAC, INC JUNE 6, 1970

The regular meeting of MARAC, INC was held June 6, 1970 at the QTH of W4WOB at 8 PM CDST. Members present were W4WOB, W4PJK, W4SJE, W4KQQ, W4YLN, W4AYL, and W4SEE.

The reading of the minutes of previous meeting was approved as distributed to all members. Motion by W4KQQ - seconded by W4PJK.

Treasurers report: Balance on hand June 1st \$584.64.

The president asked for a report on the newsletter. W4YLN, the editor reported on all comments, gripes and other news items he has received for the newsletter. These comments will create a new section to the newsletter. He read several memos from members and these were discussed at length. The newsletter will be ready to be mailed as soon after this meeting as the material can be formulated. The membership cards will also be mailed to all members with the newsletter. W4SJE was asked to comment on the charter membership certificates. The finished certificates were shown to the members present and rejected. Another artist was called to the meeting and after discussion by the members, the certificates will be re-lettered. The charter membership certificates will be ready by June 13th.

W4SJE showed the group the progressive award as planned. This was discussed with the artist who will proceed with preliminary drawings for later approval. W4SJI, William Thorsen, of Lee's Summit, Missouri asked for charter membership in MARAC. A vote was taken. A motion to accept Bill as our first novice was made by W4SJE and seconded by W4PJK.

Name plates for charter members were discussed. A motion by W4PJK, to purchase name plates was seconded by W4YLN. W4PJK volunteered to make inquiries as to price, sizes and colors available. It was decided that regular and associate members would be able to purchase the MARAC nameplates through MARAC if they wish to do so.

Discussion on having the Independent County Hunters annual meeting in Kansas City followed. We plan to offer a complete program with activities for all. We are all members of ICAN as well as MARAC and intend to ask for the convention in Kansas City as ICH members, not as MARAC members.

The president asked for a roster of all future meetings for the remainder of the year. Discussion was tabled.

Our next meeting will be a special meeting June 13th, at the QTH of W4YLN.

## FROM YOUR EDITOR

MARAC, being in it's infancy, is experiencing growing pains as well as a few unseen obstacles and a few mistakes, but nothing so far that we cannot cope with and with the tremendous interest and backing we have we feel nothing can stop us from achieving our goals and objectives.

I am a beginner at this business and ask your indulgence and help so that we can make the newsletter something that will be useful and informative to all.

Due to the international structure of our organization, this newsletter will be our main method of communication with the membership. We have tried "on the air meetings" and found them practically useless except for local stations. For this reason, we have discontinued them and I have appointed regional editors in areas that I hope will give us complete coverage, or at least several different methods for information to be collected. How the regional editors handle this is entirely up to them and should be determined by their own availability. Everyone should have the list of editors, so give them some help and let's make our newsletter a good one. Time will tell how large and informative the newsletter will be and we are certainly open to any suggestions that will make it better.

## AWARDS

As time goes by we hope this section will have more to offer. This month we have the information on two of our awards so let's go after them.

**MARAC WORKED ALL STATES MOBILE AWARD** - This award issued for working a mobile in the 48 stateside states. A silver seal will be issued for Hawaii or Alaska as the 49th state. A gold seal will be issued for the 50th state. A gold seal with ribbons will be issued for worked all 50 states mobile to mobile.

**MARAC ASSOCIATE AWARD** - This award issued for working members of THE MOBILE AMATEUR RADIO AWARDS CLUB, INC., for a total of 100 points. Charter members will count for three points. Regular members will count for two points. Associate members will count for one point.

Send SASE for seals only if requested after basic award has been issued.

For all MARAC awards send complete log data with GCR and \$1.00 to MARAC Awards Chairman W0SJE, 602 Jefferson, Lee's Summit, Missouri 64063.

## THE MEMBERS SPEAK

MARAC does not accept responsibility for the contents of this column since they are not necessarily of MARAC origin. We do feel, however that the members should have the opportunity to air their views. Every attempt will be made to publish them as long as they are considered of good taste, thoughtful and useful. Space, of course will have to be taken into consideration.

W0QDL - It is very frustrating to us county hunters when we have to put up with malicious interference by those members of the amateur fraternity who vehemently dislike our net operations. I suspect that there are others as well who go out of their way to give the various nets a bad time. One example might be a person whom has purchased his ham equipment but has flunked his license exam. Of course he has it in for all amateur operations and operators. It is too bad that the people that sell amateur equipment cannot require proof of an amateur license prior to selling the gear. This is not a cure-all but might help a little.

Anyhow, we have a problem with intentional interference on a net. We can do some things, as individual operators to help get rid of this problem.

1. Don't mention it on the air, since this only informs the offender that he is accomplishing his purpose.
2. Take note of the following items on a separate log:
  - A. Time and date of interference.
  - B. Duration of interference.
  - C. Type of interference in your opinion.
  - D. Strength of signal and fade characteristics.
  - E. If you have means of telling, the direction from which the interfering signal is coming.
  - F. Any other pertinent data which might be valuable in locating and closing the interfering station.

The most difficult thing will be to determine if the interference is actually intentional and will have to be determined by the individual. Put all this information in writing and send it to your Engineer-In-Charge of the district you are in. The FCC wants it in writing for their files. In most cases, telephone calls don't help much, but several letters will get some action started. We must begin helping fight the interference problems but do so by using a uniform and proper procedure. Of course, it goes without saying we must keep our own house clean at all times, especially when we invite the monitor stations to listen to our own operations in response to our letters. If anyone has available data on a simple loop antenna for basic direction finding, it would be well to make such information available to those that are interested in building one.

Another subject: If you are inclined to take net control, then by all means take it - whether or not you have experience at it. There is only one way to get that experience, and that is to wade right in to your chin and make sure you don't drown. In order to maintain any order or sense, in this business of net operations, the net control station must have control of the net at all times, otherwise you have nothing but confusion. Whether or not you like or dislike the net control on any basis and for any reason, it is still no reason to make operations difficult and spoil the fun for the rest of the stations. Let me give you a personal example and I won't hold any punches. When I first started to listen to the 20 meter independent county hunters net, the one net control that really went against me was W7KOI. OK, I admit it, but after two or three sessions listening to him conduct the net my respect grew for him as a net control station because he had the attitude of either you get the counties or you don't and if you don't there is always another time. I don't even know W7KOI, it makes no difference at this point and I'm sure he won't be offended by what I have said. Editor's note - Gary wrote much more and it will be published as space permits.

WAQSKQ - I noticed something the other day that worked very well. While one of the stations that gets enjoyment out of causing QRM for the 20 meter county hunters was preparing to call one of his many "CQ's", W4HA, John called him and said, "Sir, you are on a very busy frequency, thank you for asking if the frequency is in use". This courtesy caught the "pest" so far off guard that he was quiet the rest of the day. He was looking for the county hunters, and since John didn't mention county hunters, he was so disappointed he didn't get his thrill for the day and we heard no more of him.

WAICXE - How about a frequency for mobile operations that won't interfere with the county hunters? Why not have the mobile stations give their county about every four or five contacts so the fixed stations will know where the mobiles are and won't have to break in and ask?

KQAYO - I understand a couple of the mobiles have been recipients of FCC type QSL'S for failing to include ~~MO~~ after their call. Seems KQAKX/ mobile in such a county and state won't satisfy the requirement.

Along this same line, many stations, fixed and mobile are failing to identify with both calls at the end of a contact. Tail-ending is legal at the start but the last call must contain both calls. Just food for thought. Another pet peeve - failure by net controls to announce the county and state prior to running for the benefit of all those copying 3/3 and 4/4. This should eliminate about 75% of the net confusion. One last item - what ever happened to mobiles and DX first and just wait and see where he is going next?

WA6KHN - Had a good time on the trip to Mack's Inn, Idaho. Not much sleep, a lot of chinning and saw a lot of nice country. I think I know where I want to retire in 18 months. The trip took in 54 counties, 289 contacts and 2895 miles and one generator! Those attending the Idaho get-together were VE6AYU Armand, W6JHV John, VE6ANR Ted, K7JWZ Dean and XYL Kay, WA9PRE/WA0ZZT Don and XYL WA9UDP Dee, K7MRX Fran and OM Doc, K0QXD Allis and XYL, K7WQJ Floyd, W7GUH Bill, WA7JMA Marty and WA6KHN Walt. On the way back I stopped and saw WA7EGL ABE, WA7IRD Willie and WB6EXT George. Willie put us (K7WQJ, W7GUH, WA7JMA and WA6KHN) up for the night and fed us a huge Sunday midnight snack. Editors note - Walt says his military duties will keep him from making the trip to Knoxville which we are sorry to hear but he also says he will try to stop in Kansas City on his leave.

W0YLN - I might as well get my two cents worth in. Thought it might be a good idea to mention filing with FCC District Engineers In Charge in districts you plan to be mobile in for extended periods.

#### TRIP INFORMATION

WB2CUI - From New York to Oklahoma beginning June 27, 1970.

W0AYL - Kansas to Colorado and will cover western Colorado counties beginning July 13, 1970.

WA0WCS/W0SJE - Leaving June 28, 1970 and will go through Missouri, Illinois, Indiana to Columbus Ohio then south to Knoxville, Tennessee.

WA0SHE/W0AYL - They will leave about 1 July, 1970 and cover the following counties in southeastern Missouri: Camden, Pulaski, Laclede, Wright, Texas, Howell, Carter, Shannon, Reynolds, Iron, Scott, Stoddard and others. Some counties in Northeastern Arkansas, Southern Illinois and Western Kentucky will be included. From there to Knoxville, Tennessee.

WB8MB - From Ohio to Oklahoma, no date available.

WA6KHN/K0TVY - Planning an Iowa mobile trip for the weekend of July 11 and 12th. We would like to try to get into the most needed counties. Drop a note to K0TVY and let me know which counties you need most. As you know, even though this trip is planned, something can come up. Editors note: Gordy and XYL are the proud parents of a new harmonic, congratulations!

KH6GLU/KH6 - Will be active from Kalawao county during Field Day - look for me mostly on SSB 14 mc. 0199-0500Z (14265), SSB 21 mc. 2200-2300Z (21370), SSB 28 mc. 2100-2200Z (28650). Other times on each band as openings occur. Rig will be a Yaesu FTDX400, Vertical and dipole antennas. Aloha, GCR, Ed.

W9CTA/W4NN - Bob says he will be going home to Beardstown, Illinois (Cass county) for 30 days leave. He will try to cover all Illinois counties. He is also going to try to get Palo Alto county Iowa for WA4FGX and Newton, Pulaski counties in Indiana for W5ULN. After that he will go to Knoxville, Tennessee and from there to Okaloosa county Florida. If anyone needs anything special write to Bob at 704 W. 6th St., Beardstown, Illinois 62618. All QSL'S should go to 718 Powell Drive, Niceville, Florida 37578.

WA3FEU - Joe informs me that he is moving to a new QTH in Des Moines, Iowa and will give out counties starting 20 June from Washington D. C. to Des Moines. All QSL'S should go to Byron Lindley, General Delivery, Des Moines Iowa.

W00AQ - Plans a trip through Kansas, Nebraska, eastern Wyoming and Colorado the second week in July. He requests information on counties needed so he can plan his trip. He will be going for counties needed so let him know what you need.

W0YLN/WA0KQQ - Mike and I plan to go south from Leavenworth county to Elk, Crowley and Chautauqua counties Kansas then to Nowata, Washington, Mayes, Haskell and Latimer Oklahoma. Then back to north Arkansas and through the northern counties in Arkansas and on to Knoxville, Tennessee. We plan to leave on the evening of 1 July and will use all bands, especially 40 meters (7265) since there will be so many mobiles moving. We will have quick QSY capabilities so we can QSY for close-in contacts. Of course, we as well as the other mobiles from this area plan to return home via different routes.

WA0EVO - Phil says he will go east through Iowa, Illinois then to Indiana, Kentucky and to Knoxville, Tennessee and will leave on 2 July, 70.

WA8FSX/W8FGD - Ruth and John have subscribed to our newsletter and advise that conditions permitting, they plan to be in Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, Arizona, Wyoming, Nebraska, Iowa during 7, 8 or 9th of July. Most of their time will be in Colorado and request lists of needed counties there. John says that as usual, WA8FSX will be on the rig and W8FGD will navigate and kibitz!

#### SWAP COLUMN

W02DL - Central Electronics Model 100-V Transmitter. Complete with manual. This rig will do everything but make rain. DSE, SSB upper and lower with or without carrier. Phase modulation, CW and built in variable FSK. All self contained. Output to 100 watts. 6550 finals cost \$4.95 each. Will deliver within 200 miles. \$350.00

Hallicrafters HT-41 Linear. Excellent condition. Ep-2000 V Ip 500 MA all self contained. Will deliver within 100 miles. \$175.00

Buy both above for 500.00 and will deliver within 300 miles.

Mosely T.-33 Senior, Tri band beam. Needs trap end caps (plastic) and some of the plastic support blocks, otherwise complete. Trade for mobile antenna system or cheap SSB mobile rig, or cash. Would like \$75.00.

"Either I sell these items or find another place to live".

W0BQX - Heathkit HW-12. \$65.00

W0YLN - SB-300, SB-400, HA-10 linear amplifier. Write for particulars.

#### ODDS AND ENDS

We were going to have the Q and A section here, but haven't had much response to it so I am going to use this space for items I couldn't fit in any place else and late news. The 40 meter net is going pretty strong and have some very competent net control stations and have asked for more net controls to give them a hand. Many mobiles operate on 40 meters so it may be the place to get those elusive counties.

We intend to obtain information sheets on Auto ignition noise suppression and have them available for an SASE but at this writing they are not available.

For you non-believers, W0MBO, Jack's claim to his biggest mobile thrill is a SR-150 QSO mobile contact with a ZL on 75 meters and he has the card to prove it. Keep slugging, guys and gals. (Via W02DL).

That's it for this one except I want to apologize for the errors and poor quality of the print. We are going to have a professional with a better machine do it the next time. 73's and see you next month if not before.