



# The County Line

# RoadRunner



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

Editor: Clifford A. Taylor, WB4FBS, 22707 Red Mountain Dr., Elmendorf, TX 78112-6034  
Phone: 210-621-2741, Email: wb4fbs@aol.com

## Volume XXVIII

## January 1998

## Number 1

The Regular General Membership Meeting of the Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club, a Kansas non-stock corporation, was held on December 7, 1997 in the home of Bill and Peggy Peale, Dallas TX. Jerry Weaver WD5JGS, Vice-President of MARAC presided and called the meeting to order at 2:37pm CST. The following officers were present: Jerry Weaver WD5JGS, Vice-President; Bill Peale W5MW, Treasurer; Donald Simmonds N5XG, Secretary; Mike Carver KG5UZ, HQ Director; and Cheryl Mohon KJ5PQ, HQ Director. Morrie Pickler KB5UNX, HQ Director was unable to attend. The minutes from the November 2, 1997 meeting were reviewed, and approved as published. The November 1997 Treasurers report was discussed and approved as presented by Bill W5MW. Bill reported that he had adjusted the financial statements on the September and October reports to agree with the balanced bank statement. Revised copies were given to Donald Simmonds N5XG MARAC Secretary. Bill noted that the current financial report is always unaudited without a current bank statement. Adjustments are made for those items that have not cleared the bank and are accrued for a future financial statement.

### OLD BUSINESS

Mike Carver KG5UZ who serves on the Constitution and Bylaws review committee reported that a discussion was held on the subject at the county hunters 3M mini in Murphyeesboro this past month. It was requested that all members submit their suggestions for revisions to a member of the review

committee soon. Several members and Board of Directors mentioned that they had not seen, and wished to see the proposed amendment submitted by Harry Brundridge NFOX in Orlando. Part of the review is to have all proposed amendments published in the County Line Road Runner well in advance of any planned vote for acceptance. The Master County Hunters Award (BINGO) and 3rd Time Around Award that have been under the custodianship of Dave Manescu W6CCM have been assigned by Dave to MARAC to administer. This is inclusive of any subordinate award(s) using the BINGO name and format (2nd Time Bingo etc). Roger Prudy W2NWL and the MARAC Awards Committee will align the award with the current MARAC awards guidelines and input it into the MARAC awards information package. MARAC is grateful for Dave's confidence in MARAC to be its new custodian. More information will be published later on this. Anyone applying for either of these awards should send it to the MARAC Awards Chairman and not to Dave. All existing rules are grandfathered over until a review has been completed. Eldon Hall N8STF previously ask the Board for some time to allow him to test local interest to see if it was feasible for Michigan to be the host for the national convention in year 2000. Eldon made a formal presentation at Murphyeesboro and had much positive feedback. As a result Eldon has formally requested, on behalf of the MI-2000 committee, to host the year 2000 convention. The Board voted unanimously to award the year 2000 MARAC national convention to the MI-2000 committee, chaired by Eldon Hall

N8STF. Good Luck to Eldon and his committee.

### NEW BUSINESS

The Board has received a letter of resignation from Joe Parsons W5UJO MARAC President. The Board accepted his resignation. Joe had subsequently submitted a letter requesting reconsideration on this matter. In view of several existing issues, the Board did not act on the later feeling it was not in the best interest for Joe, the Board, and the MARAC membership. The Officers and Board members had nothing but praise for Joe and his past contributions. The Executive committee members in attendance made a motion and voted unanimously to appoint Jerry Weaver WD5JGS the new President of MARAC, to fill the remaining unexpired term through July 1999. The Executive committee members in attendance made a motion and voted unanimously to appoint Mike Carver KG5UZ the new MARAC Vice-President, to fill the remaining unexpired term through July 1999. It was announced that the term of office is up in July 1998 for the elected Northeast and Pacific District Directors. A notice will be published in the next issue of the RoadRunner identifying the nomination process and notice of any incumbents in these positions. Positions that have more than one candidate will be determined by a ballot of membership in those Districts. A HQ Directors position will also be up for election. The Board approved the expenditure of \$867 to renew the general liability insurance policy with Cigna Insurance Company for the calendar year 1998. If any

member has expertise in this area, the club continues to welcome your advice. The Officers have requested Jerry Weaver WD5JGS to request the customary report from the MARAC Awards Committee on a status of all issues processed before the committee during 1997. Jerry will request this from Roger W2NWL MARAC Awards Chairman for the January meeting. A motion was made and carried to issue MARAC Merit Awards (Level 2) to Dave Manescu W6CCM and Joe Parsons W5UJO for their dedication and contributions on behalf of the MARAC membership. It was noted that Jack True WA9QNI also nominated Alice Ginsburg N4MYZ for a MARAC Merit Award (Level 2) for her long hours and contributions to the county hunters net, especially during the invasion to the 3M mini in Tennessee. It was unanimously approved. The Board also wanted to announce that they welcome nominations and recommendations from all of MARAC membership to recognize those individuals who have made significant contributions to MARAC and county hunting which has made your part of this hobby more enjoyable. Please send them to Roger W2NWL MARAC Awards Chairman, a District Director or an Officer. Without further new business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40PM CST. The next General Membership meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 11, 1998 at 2:00PM. This is one week later than normal to avoid the New Years holiday weekend. The meeting will be in the home of Bill Peale W5MW, 13432 Emeline, Dallas TX. All members and visitors are invited to attend. If you cannot attend and wish to have some information presented, please E-mail, mail, or call this information to one of the Officers or Directors who will be in attendance. This information is published in all issues of the RoadRunner. The Board wishes everyone a happy 1998.

*Donald Simmonds, N5XG*

MARAC Secretary, December 8, 1997

MOBILE AMATEUR RADIO AWARDS CLUB

### Publishing Policy

Opinions expressed in articles are those of the author and may not reflect those of the Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club. Items appearing in the Road Runner may be copied provided credit is given to the author and the Road Runner. The Road Runner is published monthly and articles from members are welcomed. Articles from other sources are welcome also, provided the source allows their re-publication and credit is given to the original author and the source. The Editor reserves the right to edit all articles for size and content. We shall not publish any article that is racial, sexist or otherwise in poor taste. Articles may be mailed hard copy or disk to WB4FBS at 22707 Red Mountain Drive, Elmen-dorf, TX 78112-6034. Articles may also be sent via the Internet at wb4fbs@aol.com. Deadline is the 15th of the month. *Note:* The editor's preferred method of receipt is via the Internet. I hate to type, hi.

### Sunshine Report

Last month I wanted to report on one of our county hunters, but didn't get that report out before surgery, so I'll report on it now. WD9GBH, Herb, reported to me that he had the opportunity to visit with Fred, W5FS, several times while he was in NM in October. Fred is doing much better and off his oxygen. His goal is to be home soon. He appreciates all your cards and words of encouragement. (*Editors Note:* See WA7JHQ's article below) Now for November's report. WB0AUZ and KA7AKJ were both in the hospital, but I have no updates on their conditions. We are very sad to report the passing of K9KKXs XYL. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Ray. As all of you know, I had a quad by-pass on November 10. The doctors tell me that I am the great success story. There were no damages or ill effects. I want to thank all of you for the cards, phone calls, flowers, prayers, and well wishes. Your support and encouraging words were a real incentive to get well quickly. County Hunters, you are the most fabulous family in the world. Your Sunshine Chairman will be at her winter address in TX in late December. I will have a phone and will try to be on the nets each day if you need to reach me. My winter address will be: Carol Morkrid, C/O McAllen Mobile Part, 4900 N. McColl Road #260, McAllen, TX 78504. I will be there until the first week of March. Thank you for keeping me updated on the health and welfare of our members.

*Carol, KI0JD*

Sunshine Coordinator

### W5FS Update

I visited with Gladys (Fred's YL) and then Fred, W5FS, while I was in Albuquerque. Fred was looking quite well, writing Christmas cards and taking walks with Gladys to feed the birds around the nursing home. It had been touch and go after his lung operation. Fred lost most of his memory and was in considerable pain. He even thought it was his time and the doctor's agreed, putting him in a hospice. But Gladys had other thoughts and soon convinced Fred otherwise. Fred was then on the mend and, to the surprise of his doctors, his memory returned, his health improved and he is now in the process of being slowly removed from his medications as his health returns to normal. He is going for longer and longer periods of time without oxygen and is in good spirits. I am sure a card or two from his friends would be welcomed and appreciated...

*Sterling, WA7JHQ*

### FOR SALE: FREE

*Norm, W3DYA*

I have two old CD-ROM callbook directories and I hate to throw them away. If someone would like one of them, they are free with first come, first served. I will pay shipping UPS Ground. SAM Amateur Radio Call Sign Database - April 1996 This just has North American Calls only, no international. Buckmaster's HamCall CD-ROM October 1996 Edition. North American and International calls. I ran both

under Windows 3.1: Buckmaster also good for Win 95, MAC, etc. Email: w3dya@juno.com

### KNWD TS-50S Mobile For Sale

Message: Kenwood TS-50S for sale. Good Condition. Cosmetically very clean. Original Box and packing. Manual, microphone, DC power cable and mounting bracket are included as well. No CW filter. No, I am not getting out of County Hunting, but I have too many HF rigs and not enough stereo equipment! \$625.00 and I will pay shipping. e-mail me at ernie@avana.net if you're interested.

Ernie, KS4Q

### CH Logging Program for Windows

Log contacts, track counties for USACA, Bingo, 5Stars, Teams, transmitted counties, calls worked and three other Awards of your choice. Print MRCs, lists, (depending on your printer). On line Help. Send 3 - 3 1/2 1.4M formatted disks, protective mailer, and return postage - or \$4.00 - I supply disks, mailer & postage.

KAIQ

### NEEDED COUNTIES

Lloyd Smith, NX4W

I have only 35 to go for USACA:

AL Escambia Lauderdale AR Sharp CO Gilpin Huerfano San Miguel GA Chattooga ID Gem Lemhi Payette Washington KS Cheyenne Phillips Rooks Stanton KY Adair Casey Lewis Marion MO Grundy MS Attala Leake Wilkinson MT Blaine Liberty NC Camden Hertford Hyde NE Box Butte Dawes Hayes Scotts-Bluff NY Franklin UT Wayne VA Halifax VT Orleans

I am home most of the time. My phone number is 904-462-9085. My former call sign was N1OAZ up in New Hampshire. I am also mobile and would be happy to help anyone with counties needed in northern Florida or southern Georgia. I also have a home web page if anyone would like to visit it. <http://gnv.fdt.net/~nx4w/>

Dale, WB9YCO

I need the following to finish BINGO:

MT Daniels Treasure  
Phone: 414-766-0354

Tom, WA9LKD

I've got 3 (+ a rework) left for my USA-CA. Would appreciate any help.

MO Andrew KS Comanche Cheyenne NC Chatham (Rework)

Email: wa9lkd@aol.com

Wilbur, K00JG

Counties to finish a particular state:

CA Humboldt Lassen San-Benito CO Crowley MA Barnstable MT Blaine NY Clinton OK Cherokee Pawnee TN Hardeman TX Bailey UT Duchesne WA Snohomish

### NEW MEMBERS

R-02812; K1BV, Ted Melinosky, 65 Glebe Rd, Spofford, NH 03462-4411, Telephone: 603-363-8209, Email: k1bv@top.monad.net =Cheshire

R-02813; W4DUE, Ted M. Rosseter, 4709 Burgundy Pl, Lakeland, FL 33813, Telephone: 941-646-5288 =Polk

R-02814; NJ2DX, Tom Kenney, PO Box 1222, Toms River, NJ 08754, Telephone: 732-949-1784 =Ocean

R-02815; VE3OT, Mitch Powell, 782 North Mile Rd, London, ON, Canada N6H 2X8

R-02816; K18AP, Greg Vineyard, 1115 W. Bergin Ave, Flint, MI 48507-3603, Telephone: 810-239-2985, email gregory@tir.com =Genesee

R-02817; W8HFK, John Wentz, 26445 Evert St., Highland Lakes, Leesburg, FL, 34748-8034, Telephone: 952-728-2615, =Lake

R-02818; K6KLL, Alan Young, 919 Marina Dr, Napa, CA 94559-4744, Telephone: 707-255-4480, =NAPA

R-02819; WB2JVI, James Tobin, 21 Woodshore East, Clifford Beach, NJ 07735 =Middlesex

R-02820; W3CR, Charles E. Ralph, 3005 54th St, Moline, IL 61265, Telephone: 309-797-9878, email w3cr@aol.com =Rock Island

R-02821; NK0N, Orville "Orv" Duecker, P O Box 113, Frederica, IA 50631, Telephone: 319-275-4537 =Bremer

### ADDRESS CHANGES

KB1AF, PO Box 363, Ellenton, FL 34222 =Manatee  
WA2AKB, 100 Woodbury Rd, Highland Mills, NY 10930-2407

WA3RTY, 906 Willow Ln, Lebanon, PA 17046-2021 =Wayne

K4SB, 3926 Whitney Park Dr, Duluth, GA 30096-3141

KB4XK, 283 Thomas Dr, Semora, NC 27343-9574

NA5F, 4220 18th St NE, Naples, FL, 34120 =Collier

KI5TV, 4220 18th St NE, Naples, FL, 34120 =Collier

N5WRX, 1325 Nile Dr, Corpus Christi, TX 78412-4122

WB6FJU, (Summer) 52967 Day Road, La Pine, OR 97739-9015, Telephone: 541-536-3573 =Deschutes; (Winter)

45323 Park Sierra Dr #248, Coarsegold, CA 93614, Telephone: 209-658-8696 =Madera

N7PIB, PO Box 624, Vineburg, CA 95487-0624 =Sonoma

WB7VIZ, 300 Cortleigh Dr Apt D-4, York, PA 17402

K8BXT, 574 SW Linden St, Stuart, FL 34997-6228 =Martin

KI0JD, C/O McAllen Mobile Park, 4900 McColl #260, McAllen, TX 78504 =Hidalgo

K00ST, 7382 Szephyr Way, Littleton, CO 80123-4371

HB9RG, QSL via K5HT, (Canada address) C/O Eggar, RR3, Geoni, Canada L7G 4S6

## DATELINE CW

Ed KN4Y

A mobile CW county hunter stands at the new year door; In either fist, holding rich gifts, thirty hundred and seventy six galore.

Since I have retired I no longer celebrate new years eve and the arrival of another tax filled year, yet it still happens (like the bumper sticker says). Time moves on and so does progress. I was reading where back in 1907 the cavalry had a new type of mobile telephone. There was 5 miles of wired stored on a reel which played out as the scout rode the mule. This improved model did not require the rider to dismount and drive a spike into the ground to complete the electrical connection, the grounding wire was attached to the mule's hoofs, one of which was always on the ground. The rider could communicate while in motion.

I was thinking how this system was like the internet, the only difference is that the mule is now the operator, boy how many miles of wire would it take to run the counties in a State using this scout method. In my imagination I hear. Cavalry scout Jeff just ran Fond du Lac and if he has enough wire he will run Sheboygan tomorrow. I chuckle to myself, county hunters are easily amused.

I am brought back to reality by a loud ear shattering blast from an air horn, I look out the window and it is Gator, I did not hear him drive up. He gets out of his 4by4 and comes into the shack carrying several four packs of wine coolers. "Happy New Year dude, like the sound of my Christmas present that my sister Bubba got me, what you be doing that is new in a new year?" Gator laughs and sets all but two of the wine coolers in the refrigerator, "What in the world is this?" Gator asks holding up a strange shaped bottle of beer. "I got that at the bowling alley, that is a new bottle design for the ten pin bowler, the bottle is in the shape of a pin." "I would say it looks like a.." "Gator, put the bottle down and behave yourself, this is a new year." Gator prances gayfully about and hands me a wine cooler, try to remember never kill a messenger with a wine cooler.

Gator picks up a photograph. "That be you, and that be Barry, who be the other dude?" "That is a picture Norm, W3DYA sent me, he took it at the last county hunters convention and no the camera did not explode. The guy next to Barry N1IA, is Andy, W3XE." "This would make a good BEFORE picture for weight watchers, bet your total weight is the only amount larger then the country's deficit." Gator laughs so hard he swallows his chew, and departs to the outside for a minute. "That will teach you." I yell, as I grasp my ribs trying not to laugh to loud. Gator is sensitive.

Gator comes back into the shack, "Feel better green face?" I say trying to sound sympathetic as I roll on the floor, tears flowing down both cheeks. "You need to quit that nasty habit, did you know the County Line RoadRunner newsletter editor quit smoking?" "If old puff puff Dave quit that means hell has frozen over and that means our taxes will be reduced, but then quitting is easy, I have done it many of times." Gator pinches up a fresh chew, but first he gets two more wine

coolers. "Wait, before you get a fresh chew have some of these chocolate covered ants." I open the tin of imported ants sent to me by a DX station who misunderstood my sending the word aunt. "You eat some first." "Okay fearsome dude." I eat several of the chocolate coated ants and quickly wash them down with a slug of wine cooler. Gator hesitates, "Where is a Aardvark when you need one." Gator downs a couple of the ants and quickly inserts a fresh chew. "What is that?" Gator asks pointing to several forms on the table.

"I am finally getting around to filling some last county award applications, have only one more to go." Gator picks up the completed form, "Why you type it dude?" "Because I have a typewriter, DUDE." Gator looks at the instructions. "You know you are suppose to fill out only the upper left portion of the form, you filled out both sides." I garb the instructions, Gator is right, "Dang rabbit Gator you will never make a good county hunter if you read instructions!" "Don't get angry at me, what are you doing?" "I have to redo all these forms!" "Why?" "You want Roger to think I did not read the instructions." Gator hands me the can of ants and a wine cooler. "You need to put some Jalapeno squeezings on dem, then you would be eating fire ants." Gator starts laughing so hard tobacco juice squirts out both ears.

Gator with tears in his eyes finally settles down, "What is a last county award for?" I lean back in my chair, "The last county award is given to whoever gives you a last county in a state." "Wow Dude, that means 50 awards, what be the cost?" "If you are a member of MARAC it is two bucks per award." "That means 100 bucks, awesome Dude!" "That is just for the USA CA award, there could be a last county award for the master hunter award, last county on a specific band, last county on CW, last Star." "You know what I think about dem Stars." I ignore Gator, he never got any stars in kindergarten for being good and hated stars since. Gator put the instruction sheet down and continues "That could be big bucks, how many really do it?" "Gator, you do not wait and send them in all at one time, you accumulate a few before you send them in, that way it is only a few bucks now and then which should not upset a persons budget, it is a way of saying thanks to a mobile operator for spending the extra time to be there to give you the county." "That be like monthly payments or the American way, but HEY DUDE I agree with you about whatever you just said." "Based on what I have heard at the conventions many last county awards are processed by the awards coordinator."

I start redoing the award forms while Gator goes to the fridge and gets two more wine coolers. He sits down and picks up the County line Roadrunner. "This dude WB6ALC should talk to that county hunter over in Cleavage Hills." "Which one?" "Newt Carr!" "Why?" "Newt just got a GMC Jimmy and bolted a aluminum plate to the top carrier rack, and mounted his amateur radio antenna on it." "Gator just what is it you are getting at?" "Did you read the article 'RF problems with new cars' in this here newsletter?" "Oh yeah, what did Newt do?" "When Newt decided to buy the Jimmy he asked the salesman to write on the sales contract that a

licensed amateur radio would be installed and used in the Jimmy." "What happened?" "The salesman said he could not do that, so Newt got up to leave and the salesman said he would check with the sales manager, to make a long story short the salesman wrote that on the sales contract." "Newt told me he has been out running counties and has had no problems with RF, even the auto cruise is not affected." "Wow that is great I will have to talk with Newt at the Mini." "Who is Minnie?"

Suddenly the chill air resonates from the BONG, BOING, BONG of Gator's paging system. "Gotta go dude, have customers awaiting." Gator grabs a handful of the chocolate covered ants and heads out the door. I go to the door as Gator is backing out of the drive, he opens the window and yells, "you know what a Chihuahua is?" "NO!" "It is a rat on crack." Laughter echoes across the sand lot stirring up the gnats and I shout HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Next be the mighty mini.

### SPOTLIGHT ON COUNTY HUNTERS

Harry, NF0X

#### George, KD8HA, and Joyce, KD8HB, Judy

George has been a County Hunter for 11 years, holds USA-CA 650, 2nd time 156, 3rd time 81 and 4th time 47. He is working on the 5th time. You will hear George more often as a mobile on one of his many long trips with his lovely xyl, Joyce, KD8HB, who has been a County Hunter for 7 years and holds USA-CA 771 all CW mobile, 2nd time 183, and 3rd time 96. She is working on the 4th time.

George credits KS8W with getting him interested in County Hunting, and 3 years and 3 months later he held his first number. He works mostly SSB, but has been heard on the CW net when he says it is necessary to get a county! You will hear him net controlling on the 40 meter net at times. When asked what he liked about County Hunting, he said, "The people on the Net." However, he also thinks that there is too much bickering on the SSB net and believes there should be a system of designated Net Controls. He does not work for individual awards and does not believe individual awards have a place county hunting outside the MARAC program.

I first met Joyce on the Buckeye Belle CW Net when I discovered that she was in a county I needed for CW. Joyce loves CW and can be found on the Ohio CW nets. She is also the ARRL Ohio Section Traffic Manager. She credits her OM with getting her involved in County Hunting and in just under 3 years later had her first number. She does not work for any awards outside the official MARAC programs, but has no objections to individual offering their own awards. She likes the friendship of other County Hunters, but, like George, she thinks there is too much bickering and criticism on the SSB net. She agrees with George that there should be a system of designated Net Controls to prevent the net from going into open session.

George and Joyce Judy, two dedicated and delightfully friendly people. If you are in need of Ohio Counties, give them a ring. Joyce will be out there pounding the brass and

George will have a death grip on the mike! A great, big ATTA BOY for George and Joyce Judy.

#### Drippings from the FRIED BALONEY SANDWICH

Hopefully, you will find that I did a better job on this newsletter than I did on the first one. Learning how to basically use a publisher can be a most trying experience - and I'm a long way from knowing how to use the one that Dave, W6CCM, sent me. I must commend the printer on the adroit manner in which they managed to print the NL so that no lines showed where I had to revert to the old way of publishing - cutting and pasting.

I hope that Dave doesn't get mad at me for borrowing from his "editorial title." I just figured that if we could have "crumbs from the Cookie Monster" that we could have "drippings from the Fried Baloney Sandwich." Baloney = bologna.

If some of you are wondering what I've been doing and where I've been while I'm not on the County Hunter nets, I've been primarily hanging out on 10 meters. I just started hanging out there to get the 1500 counties that I needed for the basic 10-meter endorsement for my Five Band Worked All Counties Award. I then became deeply involved in 10-10 International and "paper-chasing" as a sideline to my County Hunting. Needless to say, some of the old County Hunters were there doing the same thing. Yep, that's where Al, K1WQU, Marv, WB2SJQ, Ray, K9KKX, Bill, K9EHP, Bill, WD8CKP, and, for the most part, Carl, W9OO are.

County number 1500 on 10 meters appeared on December 12, 1997, when KD1NZ/M came on from Windsor, VT. Those of you who are chasing the 5BWAC know how dead 15 and 10 meters have been for the last few years, with only aperiodic "Sporadic E" or "backscatter" openings, and why it has taken me so long to get "just" 1500 counties. I can only believe that this is the primary reason for the reluctance on the part of most mobilers to even try these bands. FYI, Cycle 23 has now started and, even though there are still only occasional openings on these bands, it might be a good idea to load the 15 and 10 meter resonators back into the mobile (and an even better idea to mount them) and take a gander at these bands every now and then). If you are a 10-10 member, in addition to being a County Hunter, you have a huge audience waiting for you on 10. 10-10 members have voiced their desire to have a call-in frequency for mobiles. Carl, W9OO, has informed 10-10ers that the County Hunters, in the past, have used 14.336 and that this would be a good frequency for them to go to. I am certain that the 5BWAC chasers would love to see anyone there.

During my absences from the County Hunter nets, I can keep pace with what's happening by reading the County Hunter Forum, the email messages on the County Hunter Reflector and the RoadRunner. I noted the Forum message by Mac, WA0RKQ, and must add that, at the precise moment of which he speaks, I turned to 14.336. I listened for just a couple of minutes and promptly spun the dial back to 10 meters. If someone said, "Hold up your hand if you have ever

been guilty of bickering or casting aspersions on the 20-meter County Hunter net." I'm afraid that I would have to throw mine up. I don't think that I will ever forget reading a letter from a Florida ham that I had called a "lid" even though he was only trying to help. Extremely poor operating conditions and the resultant frustration on my part is certainly no excuse for my actions. I can only agree with the words in the song, "Walk a Mile in My Shoes" by Joe South, and should think of them before I open my mouth and put my foot in it. (I know what you're thinking, and you're absolutely correct.)

*Editor*

### USA-CA ALL COUNTIES AWARD

Congratulations are in order for the following amateur radio operators who have achieved the USA-CA All Counties Award since I assumed the custodianship of this award:

- 930, K6CF, Chris Kielich, 10/17/97
- 931, N8STF, Eldon M. Hall, 10/15/97 (date is correct)
- 932, AC4XL, James K. Landers, 10/17/97
- 933, NX4P, Ronald McClanahan, 10/23/97
- 934, N5XG, Donald Simmons, 10/25/97
- 935, AA9JJ, Frank L. Yohe Jr., 10/28/97
- 936, AD4IA, Randy Sjsson, 10/31/97
- 937, KC4UG, Ken Carpenter, 10/31/97
- 938, KD4ABC, Richard King, 11/7/97
- 939, W1VXV, Robert C. Boyd, 11/9/97
- 940, KJ8V, Dave Ertel, 11/11/97
- 941, AE4FL, Thelma McClanahan, 11/11/97
- 942, KT1M, Wally Teto, 11/14/97
- 943, NA7W, George L. Courtney, 12/3/97
- 944, KF8UN, Byron Berger, 12/8/97

*Ted Melnosky, K1BV*

USA-CA Custodian

Awards info: <http://top.monad.net/~k1bv>

### MARAC AWARDS

First, let me correct some information that I had put into last months article. The correct title should have been MARAC USA Counties Award vice USA-CA Counties Award. Anyone who has completed working and confirming all 3076 counties, or is the holder of the CQ USA-CA Award, may apply for this award. Applications are available for an SASE. Also, please note that when sending for LC's, applications or any other MARAC information each additional ounce of postage (after the first 32 cents) is only 23 cents. Another suggestion: please do not send submissions to the PO Box that require a signature. The lines at the Whiting Post Office are extremely long and the average wait in line to sign for an envelope is 20 to 30 minutes. The Awards Committee is hard at work reviewing the rules on the three new MARAC awards. They will be submitted to the Board for a final decision as soon as possible.

This months notable awards are:

Karl Adkins Net Control Award

Howie Clarke, WA4KER (1000 hours as Net Control or Assisting Net Control, CW)

Master County Hunter (Bingo):

- 136 AA6PI 11-19-97
- 127 WV1Y 12-06-97
- 138 KJ4EJ 12-06-97
- 139 W4NUL 12-09-97
- 140 KC5P 12-09-97
- 141 W9DC 12-21-97

2nd Time:

- 218 KM4W 11-24-97
- 219 N4CD 12-04-97

3rd Time:

- 111 W4NUL 12-04-97

I will create a report for the next RR of the County Hunter Honor Roll which will include those County Hunters that have received 25 or more last county awards as of December 31, 1997.

*Roger, W2NWL*

MARAC Awards Chairman

### FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

If your mailing label indicates 199801 or 199802, it is time to renew. Dues with 1st class mailing of the MARAC newsletter are \$19/year. Dues with 3rd class mailing of the newsletter are \$16/year. Third class mailing is available in the USA only. Dues with the newsletter mailed via air mail to all continents other than North America are \$30/US/year. Multiple year renewals are welcome. Please make your money order or check payable to MARAC and mail to: MARAC Secretary N5XG, see address below.

### MARAC Information Packet

For possible new members or interested county hunters, a County Hunting Information Packet is available. This packet includes information about MARAC, MRC/QSLing, net operations, county hunter supplies and more. Please send all requests with a business sized S.A.S.E. and \$0.55 return postage to: MARAC Secretary N5XG, see address below. Europeans may get an information packet from Eddie Scholes G4KHG in UK.

### ARRL Memberships

We wish to thank those MARAC members who have supported MARAC by submitting their ARRL new and renewal applications through the MARAC Secretary:

These applications are processed on a monthly basis. Cut-off for each processing cycle is the last day of the previous month. For example, if your ARRL renewal notice requests its return by September 15, it should be received to the MARAC Secretary prior to August 31.

For each ARRL membership, MARAC gets a rebate of \$2. for a renewal and \$5 for a new membership. To take advantage of this, mail your ARRL membership application and a check made out to MARAC for the required dues to: MARAC Secretary N5XG, see address below.

### CHANGES?

Please send all changes regarding your mailing address, phone number, or other database information to the MARAC Secretary, Donald Simmonds N5XG, 5709 Azteca Dr, Fort Worth TX 76112-3021. This will cover mailing of the Road Runner and the awards database. Posting the information on the WWW or sending to other sources does not guarantee that it is received at MARAC headquarters. Thank you.

### CALLSIGN CHANGES

KF2ON is now W2ET  
 WA2UDT is now ~~W~~2UDT  
 WA2UJH is now N2NB  
 WA3APO is now KW5USA  
 KB3GT is now NG3O  
 KE4KGB is now NN7XN  
 KC6CNV is now AD6DO  
 KQ6SC is now AD6DO  
 NC9F is now K0PG

### CALENDAR OF FUTURE EVENTS

Following is a calendar of future events of particular interest to county hunters. An information person is noted for each event.

**March 13-15, 1998** South Central District Mini, Lake Texoma, OK. Contact WD5JGS.

**1998 MARAC National Convention.** July 1-4, 1998. San Antonio, TX. Contact WB4FBS.

**November 12-14, 1998.** Southeast District Mini. Murphreesboro, TN. Contact KM4W.

**1999 MARAC National Convention.** Coeur d'Alene, ID. Contact W7LQT.

**2000 MARAC National Convention.** Michigan. Contact N8STF.

*For future listings in this article, please notify the editor.*

### PROPOSED TRIPS

#### 1998 NATIONAL CONVENTION

Following is a brief description of the proposed trips for the MARAC National Convention. The planning committee has tried to put together some sight-seeing trips that we think that the entire family will enjoy and on which you will get the most for your money.

#### San Antonio

Wednesday, July 1, 12:30 - 4:30 PM

Board the motorcoach at approximately 12:15 for departure to downtown San Antonio (ride of about 15 minutes). Tour San Antonio's world-famous Riverwalk on a river-cruiser, 1:00-2:00. Tour the Alamo, 2:05-2:45. Drive by La Villita (a replica of a Mexican village with shops displaying Mexican goods) and San Fernando Cathedral 3:00-3:15. Visit

Lone Star Brewery's "Hall of Horns", 3:15-4:00. Return to the hotel.

#### LBJ Ranch & Fredericksburg

Thursday, July 2, 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

Board the motorcoach at 8:30 for an approximate one hour and thirty minute ride through the beautiful Texas Hill Country. First stop will be a tour of **LBJ's** boyhood home. Next a tram will take the group on a tour of the LBJ Ranch, which includes a drive-by of the one-room Junction School first attended by Johnson in 1912, a tour of his reconstructed birthplace and the nearby Johnson Family Cemetery where Johnson is buried, and a look at the LBJ Ranch itself with its cattle and ranching operations (the ranch is still a working one where Hereford cattle are seen grazing on the riverbank). The group will then take a short ride to **Fredericksburg**, one of the Hill Country towns settled by German immigrants in the early 1880's. The rich heritage of their culture is revealed in the historical buildings, restaurants, and museums lining the main streets. Guests will enjoy a delicious lunch (on their own) at one of the delightful local restaurants with an old German atmosphere, customs and good food. Group members will then also be on their own to browse and shop. One of the places that you may want to visit is the **Admiral Nimitz Museum**. Admiral Nimitz, the last of the U.S. five star admirals, was a native son of Fredericksburg. His grand-parents were among the first settlers to the community in 1846. Their Steamboat Hotel building, originally built in 1852, contains three floors of the Museum of the Pacific War. The Japanese Garden of Peace, a beautiful restful spot behind the hotel, is a gift from the people of Japan. The History Walk of the Pacific War, located a block from the garden, exhibits rare guns, planes, boats, and tanks from WW II. At approximately 3:30 PM, the group will reboard the motorcoach for the return trip back to the hotel.

#### Tanger Outlet Mall, San Marcos, Texas

Friday, July 3, (Times to be decided)

This trip to an outlet center with 50 authentic brand name manufacturers' and designers' stores is primarily a shopping trip for the ladies while their hubbies are attending seminars, etc. (Gents may go along, however, if they are so inclined.) The mall is an approximate 45 minute ride by motorcoach from the hotel. As stated previously, the times for this trip are to be decided. Persons who would like to go on this trip should let me know how much time they would like to have to shop. (Springfield attendees would have liked to have had more time at the Branson outlet, so . . .)

*Cliff, WB4FBS*

Convention Chairman

XXX Annual County Hunters' and MARAC's National Convention  
Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ USA-CA # \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ USA-CA \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 5.00

Other Name Badge: Name, Call, USA-CA #, Relationship or what you would like. \$5.00 each.

\_\_\_\_\_ ..\$

\_\_\_\_\_ ..\$

San Antonio Tour # going \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$21.00 each ..... Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Wednesday evening No Host Dinner at the Alamo Cafe # \_\_\_\_\_ Attending

LBJ Ranch & Fredericksburg Tour # going \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$36.50 each ..... Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tanger Outlet Center Shopping Trip # going \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10.00 each ..... Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Night Banquet # Attending \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$27.50 each ..... Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Extra Prize Tickets for OM @ \$1.00 each or 12 for \$10.00 ..... Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Extra Prize Tickets for YL @ \$1.00 each or 12 for \$10.00 ..... Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

YL Photo @ \$5.00 each ..... Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

USA-CA Holders Photo @ \$5.00 each ..... Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CW Operators Photo @ \$5.00 each ..... Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL for all items ..... GRAND TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable to MARAC San Antonio Convention and send to:

Robert A. Blakemore, P O Box 63325, Pipe Creek, TX 78603-3325

**Make your own Hotel Room Reservations**

Call 1-800-THE-OMNI (mention MARAC Convention San Antonio) or 1-210-691-8888 (mention MARAC) for \$59.00 per night per room. Special rate will be in effect for period 30 June - 5 July for those who want to come early and/or stay late.

**OMNI HOTEL SAN ANTONIO**, 9821 Colonnade Boulevard, San Antonio, TX 78230



**ANNOUNCING:** The 1998 South Central District Mini

**DATES:** March 13th, 14th, and 15th 1998

**LOCATION:** Lake Texoma Resort, Lake Texoma, Oklahoma - Near the Tx-Ok border on US 70.  
(Note: RV space is available at the Resort.)

**DIRECTIONS:** US Hwy 70 13 miles west of US 75 at Durant Oklahoma.

**ROOM RATE:** All rooms \$53.00/night + 5% tax. A block of 60 rooms will be held until Feb. 6th. After this date rooms at the same rate AS AVAILABLE.

**RESERVATION:** Write Lake Texoma Resort, Box 248: Kingston, OK 73439. Tel. (405) 564-311 Use MARAC. MAKE RESERVATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

**ACTIVITIES:** Thursday Evening: Hosted dinner at Sanford's. (If you missed the potato soup last year, you don't want to miss it this year.) Indicate # attending on registration form.  
Friday Morning: Golf tourney.  
Friday Evening - 5:30 PM: Choctaw Indian Bingo. Indicate # on registration form.  
Saturday: Antenna Forum by W9UCW  
Saturday afternoon - 1 PM: MARAC meeting  
Guide service for striper fishing is available for those who wish to go fishing. Can send card of guides.

**HOSPITALITY:** Opens Thursday evening hosted by Joyce, WB9NUL

**PRIZES:** ALL PRIZE DONATIONS WILL BE APPRECIATED

**DINNER:** Saturday night. Buffet style \$18.00/person. Includes choice of two meats, vegetables, salad, dessert and drink

**REGISTRATION:** \$12.00 for OM/YL or \$9.00 single. Registration includes: name tag, group photo and drawing for any prizes.

COMPLETE FORM BELOW AND SEND WITH REGISTRATION FEE AND COST OF SAT. NIGHT DINNER TO : Jerry Weaver. WD5JGS RR#1 Box 267 Denison, Tx. 75021-9663 tel. (903) 463-3231 email wd5jgs@texoma.net

-----  
1998 SOUTH CENTRAL MINI CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CALL \_\_\_\_\_ USA-CA \_\_\_\_\_  
SPOUSE \_\_\_\_\_ CALL \_\_\_\_\_ USA-CA \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION FEE-----\$ \_\_\_\_\_

BANQUET (# \_\_\_\_\_) @ \$18.00-----\$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED-----\$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHOCTAW BINGO (#) \_\_\_\_\_

SANFORDS DINNER (#) \_\_\_\_\_

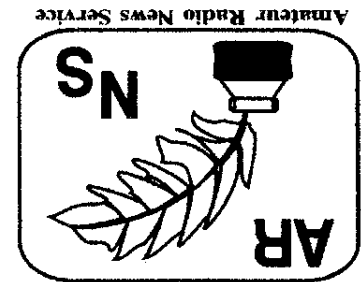
**Club Officers**

**President** Jerry Weaver, WD5JGS, R.R. 1-Box 267, Denison, TX 75020-3021  
 ☎ 903-463-3231 Email wd5jgs@texoma.net  
**Vice-president** Mike Carver, KG5UZ, 2013 Eagle Nest Pass, Lewisville, TX 75067-7501  
 ☎ 972-317-8710 email cheryl.mohon@xn.xerox.com  
**Secretary**: Donald Simmonds, N5XG, 5709 Azteca Dr., Fort Worth TX 76112-3021  
 ☎ 817-457-7000 e-mail buzzsimm@airmail.net  
**Treasurer**: Bill Peale, W5MW, 13432 Emeline St., Dallas, TX 75234-5036  
 ☎ 972-247-5958 email w5mw@interserv.com  
**Headquarters Directors**  
 Cheryl Mohon, KJ5PQ, 2013 Eagle Nest Pass, Lewisville, TX 75067-7501  
 ☎ 972-317-8710 email cheryl.mohon@xn.xerox.com  
 Morris Pickler, KB5UNX, 3200 Kenilworth Dr., Arlington, TX 76017-5206  
 ☎ 817-468-0294 email morrie@tenet.edu (KB5UNX (HQ))  
**District Directors**  
**Great Lakes**: George Roberts, KB3GN, 10 Spring Blossom Ln., Gerrardstown, WV 25420-9635  
 ☎ 304-229-5335  
**North Central** Joe Lindley, WB0CQO, 320 E. 5th St., Murray, IA. 50174-9422  
 ☎ 515-447-2144  
**North East**: John Butler, WB2NFB, P.O. Box 941, Johnstown, NY 12095-0941  
 ☎ 518-762-1283  
**Pacific**: Don McMinds, K7DM, 5365 Worth Way, Philomath, OR 97370-9025  
 ☎ 541-929-2494 email djm@cv.hp.com  
**South Central**: Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, Rt. 6 Box 748A, Harlingen, TX 78552-9806  
 ☎ 210-423-8660 email w9ucw@aol.com  
**South East**: Gene Tyree, N4ANV, 5222 Sumac Circle, Fayetteville, NC 28304-5855  
 ☎ 910-425-8003 email n4anv@aol.com  
**At large member**: Jerry Weaver, WD5JGS

**Other Members of the Board**

**Awards Chairman**: Roger A. Purdy, W2NWL, P.O.Box 270, Whiting, NJ 08709-0270  
 ☎ 908-350-5758 email w2nwl@injersey.com  
**Immediate Past President**: Don Strom, K0VPP, 11421 Johnson Circle, Bloomington, MN 55437-3527  
 ☎ 612-546-4371 email stromk0vpp@aol.com  
**Information Coordinator**: Donald Simmonds, N5XG, 5709 Azteca Dr., Fort Worth, TX 76112-3021  
 ☎ 817-457-7000  
**Newsletter Editor**: Clifford A. Taylor, WB4FBS, 22707 Red Mountain Dr., Elmendorf, TX 78112-6034  
 ☎ 210-621-2741 e-mail wb4fbs@aol.com  
**Awards Committee**  
 Listed by area of representation  
**Great Lakes**: Paula Batema, N8EMV, 1567 66th St, Fenville, MI 49408-9741  
 ☎ 616-227-3794  
**North Central**: Les Springmire, W9GPC, 9554 E. Fowler Rd. Rochelle, IL 61068-9739  
 ☎ 815-562-2511  
**North East & DX**: Barry Dutcher, N1IA, 6 Prospect St., Maynard, MA 01754-1315  
 ☎ 508-897-9835 email 73622.1167@compuserve.com or n1ia@compuserve.com  
**Pacific**: Avon Anderson, WB7WBZ, N 1035 Highland Ct., Post Falls, ID 83854-8807  
 ☎ 208-773-6767 email w7lqt@juno.com  
**South Central**: Joyce Boothe, WB9NUL, Rt. 6 Box 748A, Harlingen, TX 78552-9806  
 ☎ 210-423-8660 email w9ucw@aol.com  
**South East**: Jim Thomas, KB4XK, 283 Thomas Dr., Semora, NC 27343-9635  
 ☎ 336-234-8938  
**Sunshine Committee**  
 Carol Morkrid, N0LDT, 1853 Lakewood Ave., Albert Lea, MN 56007-6101  
 ☎ 507-377-9148  
**\*Publisher RoadRunner\*** Custodian Club Call (WB0DPD) Bob Dyson, K0AYO, 8943 Overhill Cr. Desoto, KS 66018-9173  
 ☎ 913-583-3212 e-mail k0ayo@juno.com

**A ROAD RUNNER IS  
 A VERY FAST BIRD!!!**



The County Line Roadrunner  
 MARAC Secretary  
 5709 Azteca Drive  
 Fort Worth TX 76112-3021

Bulk Rate  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Permit Number 4  
 Tongamoxie, KS