



# THE COUNTY LINE ROADRUNNER

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## From My Point of View Joyce, WB9NUL

I'm asking our members to be patient while waiting for awards. Bob, KC6AWX lost his brother quite suddenly. He finished the month out but did not have time to get certificates in the mail. Please pray for Bob and his family.

The South Central mini is now history. We had a great time. Barry and I want to thank all of you for the lovely card and gift. You were so very kind. I'm told Barry was overheard to say....Well, maybe in a few years. So, I hope that someone will take up the banner and know that I will help in any way possible.

We have house guests as I write this. AK8A, Steve N8EMV, Paula are here and I'm off to join them for cocktail.

See you in Duluth!

73, Joyce



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**Dateline CW**  
Ed, KN4Y

Life is not long, and it must not pass in idle deliberation to operate CW in a county or on a county line.

I just cut down some pine trees and I was deeply in thought wondering how long it takes for the root system to realize the trunk is gone when I head a thud as Gator's truck comes to a stop at the recycled railroad tie. Gator comes into the shack, "You have one less Kamikaze squirrel, what you doing?" He hands me a super sized latte and a box of pastries. "Thanks Gator. I see you stopped at the doughnut shop. How you and the CW chick making out?" "Nothing going on, she is not in my league." "What night does she bowl?" Gator gives me the digital salute and turns on the computer.

I hand him my Minnesota QSO party log. "Not bad Dude, I see you got 20 no-star counties and two new counties on 80-meters. How did you do in the Delaware and Vermont QSO parties?" I take a bite of my pastry filled with Bavarian cheese. "I only heard and worked two stations in each State." "You should have used sideband." There is loud clap of thunder; the radio squeals and the shack lights blink off and on. "Careful Gator, you don't want to get the A-1 god angry." Gator gives the Abhayamudra gesture as he picks up a post-it. "What is a MI Mini?"

"That is to remind me the county hunter's Michigan Mini is next month in Traverse City. The dates are April 28-30, 2011 and yes Gator Traverse City is in the United States." "You read my mind Dude. Are you going?" "No, District 1 and 2 of the Michigan State police have been instructed to shoot on sight." "I bet that Ed, K8ZZ Dude could get you in." "I think he is the one who alerted the officials." I recollect what happened at the 2000 convention in Michigan. What happens in Michigan goes on Facebook. We have a good laugh as we enjoy our pastry.

Gator looks at my ARRL VHF Sweepstakes log. "Dude did you actually turn your radio on? You got nothing in the log, the big 0." "I did operate Gator and I called for 20 hours and did not hear one station." "How did the new rotator operate?" "It worked great; did I tell you how Array Solution screwed me?" "No, I am all ears. Let the slime flow." I tell Gator how I purchased the rotator from Array Solutions and when it arrived the controller did not work. Array Solution sent me a replacement and I was rotating. But, like a dummy, I sent the faulty controller back at my expense, thinking Array Solutions would reimburse me. They do not reimburse and I learned a valuable lesson. Gator gives a look sad look on the outside but is laughing on the inside.

Gator points to a cardboard box. "What is in the box?" "They are girl scout cookies I signed up for awhile back." Gator gets out a box, opens it and we enjoy getting our cookies. How did you do in the Louisiana QSO party? I heard several county hunters were mobile." "You know darn well I was out of town and missed the party." Gator opens another box of cookies, we sit there munching and wondering if the Northern county hunters are having this much fun.

Suddenly Gator's cell phone sounds off. Gator answers. "Got to go Dude, the temperature gauge on the feed line has malfunctioned." He is gone like a three hundred pounder going down the water slide. I listen for a Kamikaze squirrel, but hear nothing. I hear the printer start.

It is the list of mobile stations that ran on the county hunters frequencies, I read: AK8A, K0ARS, K0FG, K0LG, K2HVN, K4UFH, K4YT, K7JWV, K7RE, KA4RRU, KB6UF, KC7YE, KG5J, KM1C, KN4Y, KS7S, KU5B, KW4V, N0KV, N4AAT, N4CD, N4JT, N5NA, N6HH, N8KIE, N9JF, N9QS, NO5W, NX4C, VE1WT, W0GXQ, W0NAC, W3DYA, W4HSA, W4SIG, W7FEN, W9MSE, WA4UNS, WA7JHQ. Gator was excited when he heard Al on the air, but had to leave before working him.

I look at the calendar to see what operating supplements to CW county hunting are available this month. I notice there is the Idaho, Wisconsin, Oklahoma, North Dakota and Virginia QSO parties and that is 341 counties up for grabs. There is the 10-10 Mobile QSO Party. Dang I forgot to tell Gator to plan to operate mobile in this party. There are also some DX contests for the DX enthusiast. For example get out the straight key and do the YL CW Party. I forgot to tell Gator I worked 90 countries in the ARRL DX CW contest. Nap time is here.



### **Master Platinum Award.**

Hollis, KC3X

**B**ack in 2002 W3CR and I were talking about a new award he was thinking about. When the awards committee approved the Master Platinum Award in 2003, there were five holders of the Masters Gold award out running counties. W3CR, K5GE KI0JD N8STF and me. We were making a dent in the counties but due to medical reasons I was forced to be out of County Hunting for a long period. When I returned in 2009 there were a host of Masters Gold holders running counties. I resumed my quest for the Master Platinum Award. At last on February 10, 2011 I worked AA9JJ/N9QPQ in Hawaii, HI for the last one. Many thanks for their trip to the Islands. Also a special thanks to N7PIB and K6KLL who made several attempts in inclement weather in northern California to finish up CA for me. N8KIE moved up to 17 meters after I completed the Master Platinum Award for my first contact in Hawaii, HI for the Mobile Diamond Award. Not sure if I will ever finish it but will continue to monitor for a contact with MP holders. It is always fun to start working towards another award. Thanks to all the mobiles (listed below), Net Controls, and those that gave me a call to alert me that one of my needed counties was running, especially when I was mobile.

N8KIE 310, K5GE 264, N4CD 248, AA9JJ & N9QPQ 221, N4AAT 191, KI0JD 180, W3CR 172, AB4YZ 162, N7ID 141, N2OCW 131, WG6X 124, N8STF 124, W0GXQ 109, KB6UF 105, KM9X 86, N9QS 47 WQ7A 46, W6TMD 36, N5UZW 27, N0ZA 21, AE3Z 17, W9GUY 10, N9STL 10, KE3VV 9, ND3T 6, N7PIB 6, AB2LS 1, (KC3X 273)

**KANSAS PSK ROUND-ROBIN TRIP**  
**W0NAC/N0LXJ (Matt/Sharon)**

On Sunday morning the 26<sup>th</sup> of December, 2010 Sharon and I started out on a 5 day trip that took us through 7 counties in Colorado and 37 counties in Kansas. Our primary goal was to try and put out as many of these counties as we could on 20M, 30M, and 40M PSK-31 as an OM/YL team. Our secondary goal was to put out as many of these counties as we could on 20M and 40M SSB plus satisfy some special requests for CW.

The results of the trip were both a little surprising and very satisfying. We had a great time and hopefully made a bunch of folks happy. Between the two of us, we made a grand total of 2228 contacts of which 1176 were PSK-31, 969 were SSB, and 83 were CW.

The way we found that worked best was to stop on county lines to put out PSK-31 on 30M, 20M, and 40M (usually in that order) and then put counties out on the fly using SSB. On our PSK-31 runs, we used macros (slightly modified for team use) originally designed by Lloyd (NX4W). After using these for 3 days I shortened them up some which almost doubled our contact rate. Let's face it – using PSK-31 is a lot slower than using SSB. There were some county lines where it took almost an hour to work everyone who wanted to work us. One of these was the county line of Rice and McPherson, KS where we worked 26 stations (giving out 104 contacts) on 30M, 20M, and 40M!

The total number of people active on PSK-31 was also surprising. Over the course of 5 days, we worked a total of 35 different call signs on just PSK-31. Granted, some of these were “passers-by” who happened to stumble on the frequency, but they were welcome and quickly adapted to our very short procedures. Sharon even got a new county (for her 2<sup>nd</sup> time) from one of them! Naturally we had a lot of repeat calls as we went from band to band on the same county line (collecting “County Challenge” band contacts?). The top ten callers on PSK-31 and their total number of contacts (include times 2 for county line & times 2 for both our calls) were:

- 1) N4JT (Paul) – 180
- 2) K8QWY (Ed) – 134
- 3) AA8R (Randy) – 96
- 4) WB2ABD (Paul) – 88
- 5) N5MLP (Ron) – 70
- 6) WA7JHQ (Sterling) – 64
- 7) N8CU (John) – 56
- 8) WA4UNS (Doug) – 50
- 9) NN9K (Pete) – 48
- 10) NU4C (Paul) – 36

There were many others (too many to list here) who worked us to make up the 1178 total contacts made.

We even experienced our first “pile-ups” on PSK-31. We discovered that 2 or more PSK-31 stations (calling on the same frequency) usually print only “garbage”! If one of the competing station transmits longer than the rest, they will suddenly start printing clearly. This is sort of “tail – ending” for PSK! There doesn't seem to be any capture effect like on FM where the strongest station wins. On PSK-31 stronger stations just produce stronger garbage if someone else is transmitting at the same time and on the same frequency. There doesn't seem to be any benefit to asking calling stations to “spread out” time-wise. If we tried that, usually ALL calling stations would delay their call and still end up on top of one another producing garbage! I believe the answer may be to use the same technique that DX stations use, i.e. listen up or down slightly from our transmitting frequency (which is locked) and have calling stations call slightly higher or lower than our transmitting frequency. Because PSK-31

only requires about 20 Hz offset from another signal to become readable, competing signals would occupy only a few hundred Hz of spectrum at most. The main problems with this approach are that calling stations would have to call a little longer to allow the receiving station time to tune them in. Also, everyone has to learn how to lock their own transmitting frequency and listen at an offset point. It's really not hard, but can be confusing to newbies.

Fortunately, weather was not a problem on this trip. Also, we got a chance to try out our new 8-band "Flying Saucer" antenna designed by Barry (W9UCW). It worked very well with one exception. Since I didn't have it "tethered", it had a tendency to lay back when we were driving at highway speeds which changed the tuning, especially for 30M and 40M. Our linear is very sensitive to SWR and self protects if the SWR gets much higher than 2:1 or so. The end result was that we had to retune (even using the same band & frequency) every time we changed from highway speed to stopping on county lines (or visa versa). I would have cured this on the road, but had no fishing line with me. All-in-all, a minor inconvenience, however.

Here are a couple of photos of our new antenna setup:





Looking back on the

trip, I believe that our principal problems were slow contact rates and lack of other mobiles using PSK-31. There are technical ways to help cure the first problem, but getting more folk out on the road putting out counties on PSK-31 is a matter of motivation. Having been there, I know that operating PSK-31 mobile can be intimidating to the uninitiated, but it is like anything else – if you really want to try it, one just has to take the plunge and try. There are plenty of people around to help out if you need it. Maybe PSK-31 is not your “cup of tea”. If that is the case, there are plenty of other aspects of Ham Radio for you to enjoy. But, if operating PSK-31 mobile sounds interesting to you, we challenge you to give it a try. If the results of our trip are any indication, it looks like PSK-31 is rapidly growing in popularity among county hunters as well as the rest of the ham community. Why not give it a shot??Matt & Sharon

**Nominations**  
for CW and SSB  
County Hunter of the Year

Nominations are now in order for the 2011 CW and SSB County Hunter Of The Year Awards. Nominations must be received by your District Director not later than the end of March and should contain a brief list of reasons for the nomination(s). Your District Director will select one nominee from those that are submitted, for both CW and SSB, and forward the selection(s) with the reasons for the selection to the Election Coordinator no later than April 15th. Prior winners (per mode) are not eligible for this award. Please support the members that go out of their way to make this Club thrive and advise your Director who you think they are.

**MARAC 2011 ELECTIONS ANNOUNCEMENT**

Nominations are currently open for the positions of Great Lakes Director, North Central Director (both 3 year terms) and South Central Director (to fill the unexpired term of N0ZA) for 1 year. Nominations will be open for 60 days. They are open from January 5<sup>th</sup> through March 10<sup>th</sup>. Any current member of MARAC is eligible to run for office. For the District Director positions you must live in a State within that District - they are listed on the MARAC website.

<http://marac.org/directors.htm>

If you are willing to serve MARAC in an elected position, please send your nomination to [KL1V@GCI.NET](mailto:KL1V@GCI.NET) or via regular mail, which must be received on my end by March 10<sup>th</sup>.

**MARAC VOTING INFORMATION**

Remember, if you are a new member or are REJOINING following a lapse in membership, you are NOT eligible to submit nominations or vote in an election until the first day of the month following receipt of initial payment of dues and valid membership application to the Secretary of MARAC.

Those individuals maintaining uninterrupted membership status are not restricted from nominating or voting in the current month.

If you are unsure of your membership status, please go to the MARAC web site at <http://marac.org> click on Member Database and enter your call in Call Lookup to determine your MARAC Expiration Date.

**BALLOT RECOGNITION**

**2nd qtr 2010-2011**

I would like to congratulate the following stations for receiving recognition from their peer's and votes in the 2nd quarter award voting. They are in no particular order and have received at least 3 points. They are given 2 points for a first place and 1 point for a second place vote. There were 16 electronic ballots received this quarter.

NET CONTROL SSB: N5UZW, KZ2P, W4SIG,

NET CONTROL CW: K4AMC, W0GXQ

BEST MOBILE SSB: N5UZW, KL1V, N4AAT, K3IMC, N0KV, K6JN

BEST MOBILE CW: W0GXQ, N9JF, KL1V

BEST TEAM: N6PDB/WA6OCV, K6JN/W6XJN, N0KV/N0DXE, KB0BA/N0XYL, AA9JJ/N9QPQ



**MARAC Board of Directors Meeting  
February 16, 2011**

The Special Meeting of the MARAC Board of Directors was called to order at 0100Z by the President (Joyce-WB9NUL).

**Board Members Present**

President - Joyce Boothe - WB9NUL  
Vice President - Leo Bingham - WY7LL  
Secretary – Jim Grandinetti – KZ2P  
Treasurer - Terry Dummler - WQ7A  
Great Lakes Director - Randy Hatt - AA8R  
North Central Director - Cliff Bird - AC0B  
Pacific Director - Robert Devine - KC6AWX  
South Central Director - Barry Mitchell - N0KV

A motion was made by Terry (WQ7A) and seconded by Leo (WY7LL) to accept the minutes of the December 1, 2010 meeting. The minutes were accepted by a vote of 6 in favor and none opposed.

A motion was made by Jim (KZ2P) and seconded by Bob (KC6AWX) to accept the Treasurer's Reports for November 2010 and December 2010. The reports were approved by a vote of 5 in favor, 1 abstention and none opposed.

A motion was made by Jim (KZ2P) and seconded by Terry (WQ7A) to accept the Awards Manager's Financial Reports for October 2010, November 2010 and December 2010. The reports were approved by a vote of 5 in favor, 1 abstention and none opposed.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

A motion was made by Terry (WQ7A) and seconded by Cliff (AC0B) to appoint Barry Mitchell (N0KV) as MARAC South Central Director. Barry shall serve until the next annual election of directors (July 2011), at which time the position will be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term. The motion was approved by a vote of 6 in favor and none opposed.

A motion was made by Jim (KZ2P) and seconded by Leo (WY7LL) to accept the below clarification of the Mobile Diamond Award. The motion was approved by a vote of 6 in favor and 1 abstention.

Proposed Clarification of the Mobile Diamond Award Rule:

**Mobile Diamond Award**

**OBJECTIVE:** To make **Valid Contacts** in **All USA Counties** with mobile operators who have earned the MARAC Master Platinum Award, including contacts while in a **Mobile Operation** and transmitting from at least 500 counties on at least two different bands after the applicant has earned the Master Platinum Award.

**SPECIAL RULES:** All **Valid Contacts** for this award must have been made on or after September 15,



2010.

After the date of the applicant's Master Platinum Award, the applicant must make contacts with holders of the Master Platinum Award in **All USA Counties** (Master Platinum contacts). Both Master Platinum operators involved in the contact may count both counties toward the Mobile Diamond Award.

After the date of the applicant's Master Platinum Award, the applicant must make additional **Valid Contacts** while transmitting in a **Mobile Operation** from at least five hundred (500) different counties.

In each of the 500 different transmitted counties, the applicant must use at least (2) different **Bands** and make at least three (3) **Valid Contacts** with different stations on each **Band**.

In each of the 500 different transmitted counties, at least one (1) of the **Valid Contacts** must be with another holder of the Master Platinum Award. The contact may be on either of the two bands.

For each **Valid Contact**, the two Master Platinum Award holders must be in separate counties (or countries) at the time the **Valid Contact** is made.

**AWARD LEVELS:** The Mobile Diamond is awarded for making Master Platinum contacts in **All USA Counties** and making multiple contacts while transmitting in a **Mobile Operation** from at least 500 different counties on at least two **Bands** as a Master Platinum holder.

**APPLICATION AND FEES:** Standard application and logs. There are no fees for MARAC members for this award. Standard fees apply to non-members.

The Awards Chairman - Bob (KC6AWX) - asked the Board guidance on implementing the below new awards approval process. All of the Directors agreed with Bob's proposal.

The new awards that have been proposed by our members are very complicated. The LOGGER Team has experienced much difficulty programming the various new awards (most recently the Mobile Diamond Award). Because of the programming problems, the Awards Manager proposes amending the awards approval process:

- 1) The new award is submitted to the Awards Manager.
- 2) The Awards Manager submits the new award to the Awards Committee.
- 3) After the Awards Committee approves the award, it is submitted to the LOGGER

Team for their input on the viability of programming the LOGGER program to accommodate it.

4) After the new award is approved by the Awards Committee and the LOGGER Team it is submitted to the Board of Directors.

A motion was made by Jim (KZ2P) and seconded by Terry (WQ7A) to adjourn the meeting at 0127Z. The motion was approved by a vote of 7 in favor and none opposed.

Respectfully submitted,  
James Grandinetti KZ2P



### History Happens Gary, K4EXT

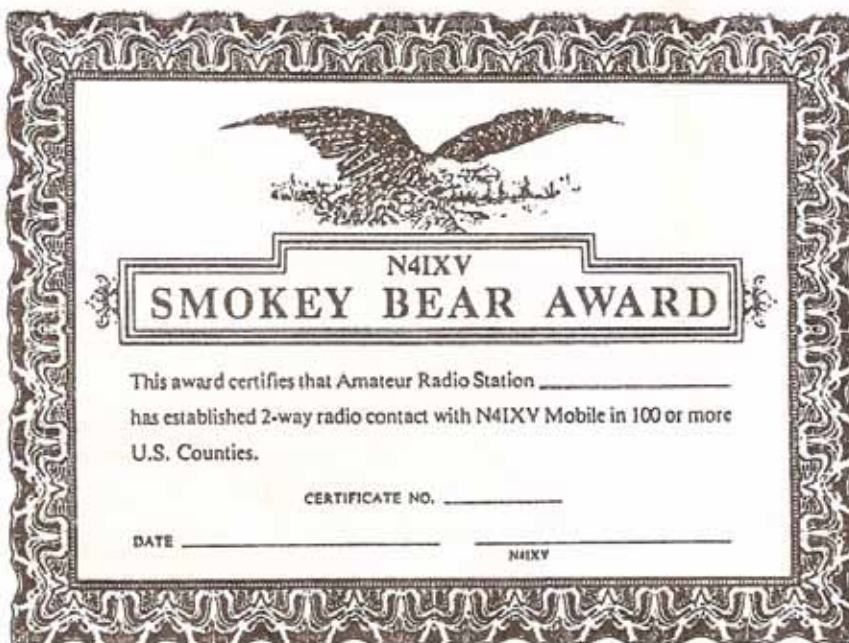
Yes! March Madness is finally here! Such a great time of year ... nearly non-stop college basketball to watch on the tube. There's no way of predicting how this year's NCAA Tournament will go ... so much parity in college basketball as the sports pundits like to say over and over and over. But it should be fun to watch. Boiler-Up!

Many thanks again to folks that sent in goodies for the [www.CHarchive.com](http://www.CHarchive.com) website! Great pics came from Terry, WQ7A and Silver, N9QS. Jim, W9JL was kind enough to email me and help fill in some holes in convention data. And Jerry, W0GXQ mailed me various old convention pictures that I was missing. Slowly but surely the CH History Website is taking shape.

Does anyone remember where the 1979 MARAC National Convention was held? That year has me stumped as I cannot seem to ferret out the information from any sources I have. If anyone knows ... or anyone knows someone who probably knows ... please let me know.

One thing I've noticed while perusing old Roadrunner issues is the number of various individually-sponsored operating awards. For example, Arnie Bachmann provided the K9DCJ Mobile Wisconsin Award for working him in at least 50 different Wisconsin counties ... and Stuart Casper provided the W2PDM County Hunter's Diploma by either working him while he was mobile in 50 or more counties or by running him as NCS or ANCS while he was mobile in 10 or more counties.

One particular sponsored award that caught my eye recently was the N4IXV Smokey Bear Award offered by George Heflin and announced in February 1989. Working N4IXV in 100 different counties (with no state requirement) meant a nice certificate to the county hunter ... being one of the first five to qualify for the award meant a choice of Virginia State Police hat or t-shirt!



**National**

**43<sup>rd</sup> Annual MARAC National Convention  
Duluth, Minnesota. Wed. July 6<sup>th</sup> – Sunday July 10, 2011  
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ USACA # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ ST/PROV \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fee Includes:** one name badge, one Ham prize ticket, one cash prize ticket **\$25.00**

**Additional Name Badges**      **Total number of additional badges** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$3.00 = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Badge Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign or other designation \_\_\_\_\_ USACA # \_\_\_\_\_

Badge Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign or other designation \_\_\_\_\_ USACA # \_\_\_\_\_

**Desired photos mailed:** Group \_\_\_\_ USACA Holders \_\_\_\_ YL \_\_\_\_ CW Ops \_\_\_\_ **X \$5.00 = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mailed Photos are FREE**

**EXTRA PRIZE TICKETS - Raise your chances of winning the "BIG ONE"**

**Ham prize tickets - Single tickets #** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$1.00 = \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **12 tickets #** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$10.00 = \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **25 tickets #** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$20.00**

**Cash prize tickets - Single tickets #** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$1.00 = \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **12 tickets #** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$10.00 = \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **25 tickets #** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$20.00**

**Wednesday, July 6<sup>th</sup> Dinner at Grandma's Restaurant Canal Park - 5:00 pm (Pay your own bill) #** \_\_\_\_\_ **attending**

**Thursday, July 7<sup>th</sup> Soudan Underground Mine & Neutrino Lab Tours – Tower, MN**      # \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$ 45.00 = \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
(All day tour 7am – 4pm, lunch will be provided - circle which meat you prefer:    turkey    ham    beef)

**Friday, July 8<sup>th</sup> Glensheen Mansion Tour – 8:30 am – 11:00 am**      # \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$ 20.00 = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Duluth Vista Harbor Cruise – 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm**      # \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$ 20.00 = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday, July 9<sup>th</sup> V.E. Test Session 10:00am - Free - Circle which test(s) you would like to take:**    TECH    GEN    EXTRA

**Awards Banquet**

(Happy Hour 5pm – 6pm - Cash bar, Dinner Served at 6:00 pm)

**Grilled 8oz Top Sirloin Steak #** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$25.00 = \$** \_\_\_\_\_      **Northwood's Walleye #** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$24.00 = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chicken Marsala #** \_\_\_\_\_ **X \$22.00 = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Includes tip and taxes**

**Your Payment**      (Do not send cash)      **Total \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to Brian Bird - MARAC Convention**

Mail this form and your payment to: Brian Bird, 4567 Caribou Lake Rd., Duluth, MN 55811-9607

Question, Comments, call Shari – 218-340-2431 or e-mail [duluth2011@aol.com](mailto:duluth2011@aol.com)

**EARLY REGISTRATION** Register before **May 15, 2011** to get a chance for the early bird drawing!

**Hotel Reservations** – call Holiday Inn direct **1-800-477-7089 / 1-218-722-1202**

Mention "MARAC" cut-off date June 15

Queen Rooms (2 beds) \$94 + taxes, King Suites (1 bed) \$94 + taxes (**Group Code = MAR**)

<http://ichotelsgroup.com/redirect?path=rates&brandCode=HI&regionCode=1&localeCode=en&GPC=MAR&hotelCode=DULMN&PMID=99801505>

*Mark your calendars and save the date to attend,*



*The 43<sup>RD</sup> MARAC National Convention  
July 6<sup>th</sup> – July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Duluth, MN*

*(Deadline for Early Registration Prize Drawing is May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011)*

**Holiday Inn & Suites, 200 West First St. Duluth, MN 55802**  
**1-800-477-7089 / 1-218-722-1202**



Relax in comfort while you're visiting Duluth, Minnesota. Our hotel's accommodations include free high-speed Internet access in each room, plus cable TV with HBO and PPV. You can work at the desk or snuggle into the cozy, triple-sheeted bed. The refrigerator makes it easy to store snacks and drinks. Room rate \$94 + tax per night, Queen or King. **Group Code = MAR** When making reservation be sure to mention MARAC



Pets are welcome. One-time, non-refundable deposit/cleaning fee. We ask that you leave the hotel a cell phone number where they can reach you. Please do not bring your pet without notifying the front desk staff. Deposit \$25.00 USD per stay.

Wednesday evening dinner



Please join us Wednesday night at 5:00 pm at Grandma's Saloon and Grill, down at Canal Park; this is a great place to eat and sight see. This will be a pay your own way. After dinner you can take a walk along the lake walk, take a carriage ride, or sit and watch one of the big ships come into port under the Aerial lift bridge.



**Thursdays Tour to Tower, MN  
Soudan Underground Mine & Neutrino Physics Lab**



Minnesota's first iron ore mine – the Soudan Mine– opened in 1882. The mine's value was in the special kind of ore it produced. The ore's high oxygen content was used to make high-quality steel in open-hearth furnaces. When technology changed; the ore from the mine was no longer needed. Soudan Mine stopped mining ore in 1962. Today you can explore the last level that the miners worked.



Have you ever wondered about the "dark" or "missing" matter of the universe? The high energy physics tour takes you 1/2 mile underground to a lab where physicists and engineers from around the world are trying to answer questions about how the universe works.

**Fridays Tours:**

**Morning Tour - Glensheen Mansion**



Welcome to Glensheen, the historic Congdon estate. Along the shore of Lake Superior, a 7-acre expanse of wooded land enfolds the 39-room Jacobean Revival mansion that is Minnesota's premier historic house museum. The 1972 horror film "You'll like my Mother" was filmed at Glensheen, starring Patty Duke as a widow who travels to Duluth to meet her mother-in-law and, instead, makes a chilling discovery!

**Afternoon Tour – Duluth Superior Harbor Cruise**



Take in all the activity and spectacular scenery in the hard working Duluth and Superior Harbor. Our sightseeing tours are not to be missed! Our crew will provide a fun and unique experience to all passengers when sailing aboard a Vista Fleet vessel. Learn about the Harbor, Duluth's history, the science and ecology of Lake Superior and enjoy the panoramic views of the North Shore and the largest freshwater lake in North America.

**Transportation**



If you plan on flying into Duluth, we have: Delta, United or Allegiant to choose from, or If you plan to fly into Minneapolis and drive, we are 2 ½ hrs north of the Twin Cities.

**Test Session**



For those that would like to take a test or upgrade, we would like to offer you a chance to do so on Saturday morning at 10:00 am.

Test session is open to anyone that would like to participate. Testing is provided by: The Arrowhead Amateur Radio Club – Duluth / Superior. Please circle which exam(s) that you are interested in taking on the registration form. Get those books out and start studying.

**FYI: Make sure you study for the NEW general test which takes effect July 1<sup>st</sup>.**

## Saturday Night Awards Banquet

We will be offering 3 different meal options:

Grilled 8 oz Top Sirloin Steak with Mushroom Ragot



Northwood's Walleye topped with Toasted Almond Butter



Chicken Marsala seasoned in clarified butter with garlic, shallot, fresh mushroom, and sweet Marsala wine, served on pasta with fresh vegetable and rich veal demi.



All entrees include tossed greens, bakery fresh bread, fresh seasonal vegetable and Chef's choice of appropriate starch or natural grain pilaf, coffee, tea and milk. There will be a cash bar open throughout the evening. Each of these meals were very tasty.



*If you have any further questions please email Brian or Shari at:*



[Duluth2011@aol.com](mailto:Duluth2011@aol.com)

**Treasurer's Report**  
January 31, 2011

Funds Balance December 31, 2010 **\$16,853.69**

Income:

Money Market Interest	\$1.97	
Awards Manager Income	\$304.00	
Membership Income	\$493.00	
Logger Distribution	\$60.00	
		<u>\$858.97</u>



Expenses:

Awards Manager Expenses	\$765.30	
		<u>\$765.30</u>

Account Balances **\$16,947.36**

Checking Account	\$5,320.04	
Money Market Account	<u>\$11,627.32</u>	
		<b>\$16,947.36</b>

Note:

The following monies are not included in the above:

Awards Chairman's Funds	\$1,500.00
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**Awards Manager's Report**  
January 30, 2011

Funds Balance December 31, 2010 **\$1,500.00**

Income	\$ 908.00	
		<u>\$ 908.00</u>

Expenses:

Office supplies	\$852.78	
Plaque Suppliers	\$125.00	
Postage	\$ 205.03	
		<u>\$1183.31</u>

Sent to Treasurer		\$908.00
Reimbursement received from Treasurer		\$1183.31



Funds Balance January 31, 2011 **\$1,500.00**

## Birthdays

Roadrunner - Birthdays		Roadrunner - Birthdays		Roadrunner - Birthdays		Roadrunner - Birthdays	
Call	Birthday Date	Call	Birthday Date	Call	Birthday Date	Call	Birthday Date
KA9JOL	Mar - 01	W9WX	Mar - 08	W7MEL	Mar - 16	KZ5KG	Mar - 24
N5PR	Mar - 01	AC5AR	Mar - 08	N7ID	Mar - 17	K0QD	Mar - 24
N5MIV	Mar - 01	K5LEO	Mar - 08	K7VAY	Mar - 17	W4KFA	Mar - 25
KC7FPB	Mar - 01	W6FJU	Mar - 08	WA8LKD	Mar - 17	W3ZD	Mar - 25
N9JFW	Mar - 01	NT4D	Mar - 08	KM6QF	Mar - 17	AA9DV	Mar - 25
N0KM	Mar - 02	K4DOM	Mar - 08	K5WAF	Mar - 17	K6CA	Mar - 26
WA5YNE	Mar - 02	KL7VB	Mar - 09	W0MTW	Mar - 17	W4SSU	Mar - 26
WN3W	Mar - 02	W4DEE	Mar - 09	W1VJ	Mar - 17	N4US	Mar - 26
KB3WN	Mar - 02	W6LX	Mar - 09	KG7MU	Mar - 17	K5EBS	Mar - 26
W3ZUH	Mar - 02	KS8W	Mar - 10	KL7H	Mar - 18	WAOQFY	Mar - 26
W6RLL	Mar - 02	WB2WZE	Mar - 10	KB9SF	Mar - 18	K8OI	Mar - 27
N4RS	Mar - 03	K9FDL	Mar - 10	W4WBA	Mar - 18	NU9C	Mar - 27
KD8HA	Mar - 03	N8FEB	Mar - 10	W5JAC	Mar - 19	K4BAI	Mar - 27
N5NK	Mar - 03	OK2PAY	Mar - 10	KN4XP	Mar - 19	K9EDE	Mar - 27
KL7D	Mar - 03	WD9ITF	Mar - 11	K8OOK	Mar - 19	WA4RNN	Mar - 27
K5TVC	Mar - 03	N5UR	Mar - 11	K5RIC	Mar - 20	N8BNI	Mar - 27
KS7T	Mar - 03	WA9NBU	Mar - 11	NC4JL	Mar - 20	K5EK	Mar - 28
W2WHC	Mar - 03	K1HV	Mar - 11	WA2GLU	Mar - 20	KA7EXP	Mar - 28
WN4AFP	Mar - 04	NN8L	Mar - 12	K6OO	Mar - 20	NH7Y	Mar - 28
K1IK	Mar - 04	KC4YBO	Mar - 12	N3TA	Mar - 22	AA6MZ	Mar - 28
WB0O	Mar - 04	W4OV	Mar - 12	WA5VGI	Mar - 22	AA8DM	Mar - 28
N7MZW	Mar - 05	N1WR	Mar - 12	W0HII	Mar - 22	N7JXS	Mar - 28
N5KUC	Mar - 05	VE4AGT	Mar - 12	WA7NV	Mar - 22	W9VB	Mar - 28
K6JRY	Mar - 05	KB6HW	Mar - 13	KM4W	Mar - 22	KA9H	Mar - 28
W4DF	Mar - 06	WK7E	Mar - 13	KW3F	Mar - 22	W4RJK	Mar - 29
N0FP	Mar - 06	NV3E	Mar - 13	KF9YR	Mar - 23	NG3O	Mar - 29
WO5W	Mar - 06	W5TM	Mar - 13	AF4ZZ	Mar - 23	WB4FEV	Mar - 29
KK5P	Mar - 06	WG4P	Mar - 13	K1RV	Mar - 23	NR2H	Mar - 30
K9ZV	Mar - 06	K3ZV	Mar - 13	KA3T	Mar - 23	KD2N	Mar - 31
N0AKC	Mar - 07	AA4VN	Mar - 14	KOWTZ	Mar - 23	KD0HX	Mar - 31
W5VUB	Mar - 07	W0EWH	Mar - 15	NK0N	Mar - 23	KS7S	Mar - 31
WY0A	Mar - 07	KU0A	Mar - 15	N9AUV	Mar - 23	WA3GLJ	Mar - 31
N4HY	Mar - 07	KG4VBK	Mar - 16	WA2DWP	Mar - 24		
N5AWE	Mar - 07	N3KN	Mar - 16	KC0M	Mar - 24		
K9HID	Mar - 08	KD1OG	Mar - 16	KC2MO	Mar - 24		



**Awards**

<b>AWARDS Issued in February</b>			
<b>Call</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Award</b>	<b>Number</b>
AB4YZ	2/06/2011	Master Platinum	# 13
KC3X	2/10/2011	Master Platinum	# 14
W0GXQ	2/08/2011	Mobile to Mobile	# 15
WO8L	2/21/2011	Cliff Corne Jr. (K9EAB) Memorial	# 123 USA-CA Holders
KG8N	2/09/2011	USA-CA	# 1212
K8YJ	2/12/2011	USA-CA	# 1213
N0XYL	2/17/2011	USA-CA	# 1214
N1BY	2/13/2011	Worked all Counties - 4th Time	# 151
WA5OPO	2/9/2011	Worked all Counties - 5th Time	# 100

<b>Roadrunner Issued In February</b>			
<b>Call</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Award</b>	<b>Number</b>
WA4RNN	2/20/2011	Last County Count 75	# 253
AA9JJ	2/20/2011	Last County Count 800	# 11
AB4YZ	2/20/2011	Last County Count 600	# 22
KL1V	2/17/2011	Last County Count 950	# 5
KB6UF	2/17/2011	Last County Count 825	# 8
N5KUC	2/17/2011	Last County Count 50	# 328
K5GE	2/17/2011	Last County Count 300	# 58



**Dave's Call**  
Dave, KU4YM

A few months ago I introduced the contest calendar and asked if it was OK. I got a positive response from the few who cared to say. The majority was silent. Nonetheless, I continued.

Last month I found that others do check it out. I got roundly chastised for not including the SC Mini on the contest calendar. Hmm. Good point. While I thought of it as a contest calendar, the writer was correct; why not the conventions?

Joyce, I'm sorry I didn't include your mini on the calendar. I intend to correct that in future calendars.

Further, folks, there are no other intentional links on the calendar; only contests and conventions will be linked. Anything else is not supposed to be there.

73, Dave      KU4YM



**Calendar**

~ March 2011 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>ONLY THE START DATE IS SHOWN</b>		<b>1</b> YL CW PARTY	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> ARRL INTL SSB DX
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> ID QP
<b>13</b> WI QP	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 10-10 MOBIL QP  OK QP  ND QP  VA QP
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> CQ WPX SSB
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Notes: CLICK THE EVENT TO GO TO ITS WEB SITE</b>	

**New Members**

**MARAC Number**

R4448  
R4449  
R4450  
R4451

**Callsign**

KJ4UDD  
KI4ACW  
KF4PHW  
WA2MCY

**Name**

Neal Miller  
William Glenn  
Michael Hevener  
William Paulus

*The County Line Roadrunner*  
**MARAC Secretary**  
**2690 Bohicket Rd**  
**Johns Island, SC 29455**

***“A Road Runner Is A Very Fast Bird”***

**Monthly Deadline for Articles is the 25<sup>th</sup>!**

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**Board of Directors**

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**Treasurer:** Terry Dummler, WQ7A, PO Box 500, Yelm, WA 98597, 253-370-3377, wq7a@comcast.net

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**Pacific Director:** Robert T. Devine, KC6AWX, 407 Alameda Del Prado, Novato, CA 94949-6302, 415-883-8980, kc6awx@marac.org

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