

Contest Gazette

Florida Contest Group

www.floridacontestgroup.com

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April 2022

From the President's Corner

Chris Plumblee, W4WF, FCG President

Welcome to spring, everyone! The Orlando HamCation[™] festivities and ARRL DX contests are behind us, and that can only mean one thing! FQP is just around the corner, and Hamvention will follow shortly after!



I'm very excited about the 25th FQP under FCG sponsorship, set to take place just three weeks from when I'm writing these words. K1TO has worked very hard to secure 25 1x1 hosts to operate for the weekend from throughout the state to help spread the word far and wide about the joy of FQP. We expect many mobiles to be QRV on both modes to make the mobile windows rattle as well. There will be lots of activity from outside Florida looking for **you**; if you're able and inclined, I hope that you'll consider getting on for part of the weekend. You don't need a big station or to be in a rare county; I've had a lot of fun in FQP in the past with a simple temporary vertical antenna at home.

I hope you've taken some time to download and read the 2021 FQP results article. Our results article is not just a few graphs and a final line score listing. That's intentional on our part. It takes considerably longer to put together the results article with that additional commentary, and requires a lot more analysis on K1TO's part when he's developing the results, but we think it adds something to the experience as well. We want to give as much context as possible for the results, whether that means comparing mixed mode entries against single-mode entries or comparing entries from year to year. We don't have the limitations that QST and CQ have of needing to publish the results in a format that will fit on a certain number of magazine pages; we want to take advantage of that flexibility to give as much useful data as we can.

The 2022 FQP should feature improved conditions on the high bands. The top 15m QSO total from within Florida in 2021 was just over 100 – I expect many entrants to significantly exceed that this year. Judging by conditions on the bands recently, we should have some useful propagation to EU on 15m in the morning on Sunday. Significant 10m F-skip is elusive; when the SFI is > 150 as it has been in the past week or so that's a very distinct possibility, but with SFI around 100, 10m prop will be spotty. Check the SFI via your preferred method in the days leading up to FQP. Sporadic E can be a useful source of QSOs on 10m if you can catch enough QSO partners to make it worthwhile. If you choose to operate assisted, watch those spotting networks and look for RBN spots on CW to guide your band choices.

After FQP, the next event on my contesting calendar each year is the Dayton Hamvention. DARA has committed to holding Dayton and all its ancillary events this year after

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FCG
Orlando Contest
Dinner
Photos

The Contest Gazette is the newsletter of the Florida Contest Group (FCG). The Gazette is published quarterly and notifications for input and publication will be on the FCG reflector. Please send input to Marty Brown, N4GL, n4gl.marty@gmail.com. MS Word documents are preferred, or type your article into the body of an email. Pictures are encouraged. Please include names, call signs, and location/event when possible.



two consecutive years that the event was canceled due to COVID-19. K3LR and DX Engineering are hosting Contest University at the Hope Hotel & Conference Center on Thursday, May 19, and the Hamvention will take place at the Greene County Fairgrounds on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday May 20-22. I just purchased a ticket to fly from Sanford-Orlando Airport (SFB) direct to Dayton on Thursdsay morning, returning Sunday afternoon. I'm flying Allegiant Air, so I'll have to pedal hard, but it will be nice to land right at the Dayton airport rather than having a 100 mile drive after flying to Cincinnati or Columbus.

If you're on the fence about attending Dayton, let me assure you that the social opportunities are worth it. It's the best opportunity in the USA for the contesting world to gather and talk shop. The casual conversations and the serendipitous meetings are very helpful. The forums and other formal presentations are all topnotch as well. Selfishly, I always enjoy Dayton so much as compared with Orlando because I'm so busy getting ready for our contest dinner at Orlando that I can't just enjoy walking the flea market, but that's not a problem at Dayton, and I'll look forward to renewing acquaintances with old friends and meeting new friends while I'm there. Wear your orange FCG shirts proudly if you're able to attend!

In other, sadder news, thanks to the members who were able to attend the memorial service for K4LQ at the Bushnell Veterans' Cemetery recently, and thanks

to K5KG and K1KNQ for organizing a get-together for everyone afterward nearby. George has offered to assist Fred's executor with the ham radio portion of his estate but we haven't received any word so far. If we have more to report, we'll publicize it on the reflector.

I've had several questions lately about K1TO's status, so I'll share briefly. He's continuing to show continuous, but frustratingly-slow improvement. Ham radiowise, he's been active on 6m quite frequently. He's having some amplifier problems so he's been limited to 100w, but he's still beating people out in pileups from time to time. He's planning to host a 1x1 on both modes from his station in FQP, so look for a big score from him in that event. Physically, his balance and strength have improved, and he's being treated with parallax glasses to help his vision. He's hoping to take his driving exam relatively soon which will afford him a lot more freedom to set his own schedule and get back on the road occasionally. He remains available by email and text if you want to send an encouraging word or 6m DX spot to him.

With our new quarterly publishing schedule for the *Gazette*, it's possible to see that the upcoming major contests before we'll publish again include WPX CW (at the end of May), ARRL Field Day, ARRL June VHF, and IARU HF Championship. I hope that each of you will have favorable propagation and the time you need to enter any or all of those as you choose, along with the innumerable state QSO parties coming up on the weekends between.

FQP Update

Dan Street, KITO



and posted to web. VFB job by Chris W4WF. Resolved searchable .pdf. Plaques made and some were delivered (W4WF has details). Plaque \$\$ being collected.

2022 FQP: 25th! Usual excellent promo from Chris NX4N. All 1x1s IDed and posted. Two callsigns left to lock. QRZ.com adjusted for some (thanks to K4KKC), but last one doesn't "free up" until week of FQP. Tweaked rules. Plaque sponsors need to be tweaked. KU9C well on way with QSLs and LOTW.





Members on the Move

Charlie Carroll, KIXX — Bonaire

This is one of three 140 foot AB-105 towers at the PJ4K location. This tower holds a pair of stacked, 2-element 40 meter-beams. In additions, there's 2 separate 3 stacks of 10-meter beams for a total of thirty 10-meter elements. Each 10 meter beam is 5 elements. The bottom stack of 3 beams can rotate 300 degrees around the tower, while the top stack of

3 beams is mostly fixed on Europe, but the very top beam at 150 feet is fully rotatable. Anyone that worked PJ4K in CQ WPX phone on either 10 or 40, this is where the signals came from. This is how I spend my 2-week vacations on Bonaire.



George Briggs, K2DM — HamCation™

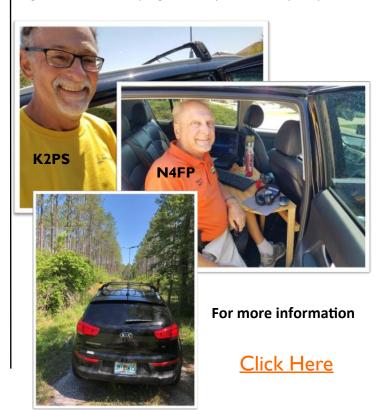


K2DM and W3US set up early Saturday. We were descended upon by many buyers. Within 30 minutes we were almost out of merchandise. We will take more stuff next year.

N4FP/M - 2022 Florida QSO Party

Wayne Brown, N4FP

Once again, I, along with Pete, K2PS, will be operating the FQP mobile for both days. The published route area of coverage will be central to north Florida. We will be aiming for as many counties as possible, hoping for at least 34. We will be running 100 watts with a Flex 6400 to Hustler mobile resonators horizontally mounted atop a 3 foot mast secured to the top of my Kia Sportage with a 3 magnet mount, with a safety rope attached to the car top carrier. I have used this mobile antenna since the 2013 FQP and it has served me well. This will be the 3rd FQP that Pete and I have worked together as a multi-single rover, swapping back and forth between operating and driving. I built a plywood bench for the back seat of the car that provides a good operating environment. Saturday we will depart from The Villages, travel the western area of our coverage, and spend the night at my QTH in Ocala. Sunday we will cover the eastern area and arrive back in The Villages at the end. Hoping for many on-the-air pileups.





AA4TI Expedition to Georgia

Steve Morton, AA4TI

The AA4TI Expedition to Georgia was a fun ordeal. I say "ordeal" because it was fairly demanding on this 72 year old body. Saturday morning at 5am, after a fairly sleepless night, I got up, grabbed a cup of coffee and my overnight bag and headed out from Nokomis, Florida (my QTH). The plan was to arrive on the Charlton/Ware county line and get set up a couple hours before the start of the GAQP so I could snag a few contacts in the NEQP and NMQP. But, with all good plans, Mr. Murphy will surely visit and make his presence known.

In the GAQP, as an Expedition, you can "split" a county line and work each county without moving. The key here is that you actually have to "split" the line with your Expedition station. This leaves very little wiggle room. The Charlton/Ware county line that I selected was quite remote and in the middle of the Okeefanokee swamp. Based on the satellite views, it looked pretty good. In reality, it was really sloppy wet. The only place I could set up was on the side of the road where the really old, really noisy power lines ran. My portable antenna sys-



tem is 33 feet tall, which was probably ten feet higher than the power lines. Once I set up the antenna, I was concerned about it falling into the power lines since the wind was blowing at about 20 knots and gusting well above that. Necessity being the mother of invention, I took down the tripod base and got out the duct tape. I took the mast and taped it directly to the county line sign and ran my ground radials out as best as I could. Unfortunately, there wasn't much I could do about the noise from the power lines. With the noise blanker on, the noise was still S7+. Without the noise blanker, the noise was about 10 over 9. That pretty much meant that I could work the big signals, but the weaker folks were never heard.

I stayed with my operating plan and did not move until 2000Z. My shoes and socks were finally getting dry, but

it was still kind of cold. Then, I moved over to the Clinch/Echols line. It was a little better and a lot quieter. The wind was still rather stout, so I ended up using the county line sign and duct tape again to set up my antenna. Once again, the area was somewhat swampy, so running the ground radials was kind of difficult. And, my feet got wet and cold again. Breaking down the station at midnight was most unpleasant due to the cold air, but at least the wind had died down.



From the Clinch/Echols line, I drove to Valdosta area and checked in to the OYO hotel. I arrived at about 1:30am. I cannot recommend this place in good conscience. It was cheap, and clean, but it attracts a rather scuzzy clientele. For starters, I had to stand outside at the check in window while the night manager and two questionable ladies argued with him. This argument was getting quite heated and the manager told them to step aside so he could check me in. I checked in, went to my room, and totally crashed. I even ignored the strange noises that seemed to be coming from inside the walls. The next morning, at 7am, it was time to leave. When I opened the door, I was greeting with a rather widespread area of vomit right in front of my door. On the plus side, I was able to sidestep the chunks and get out to my car.

I had missed lunch on Saturday and had an awful chicken salad sandwich from a gas station for dinner at about 12:45am. So, I was quite hungry and stopped for a large breakfast at the Waffle House. Waffle House is one of the few places left where you can order salt cured country ham, which I did. And, to get my mind de-fogged, I drank several cups of java. This was a good idea on paper, but in practice, it left something to be desired.

I drove to the Berrien/Lanier county line and the location that I had selected using Google maps with county

Continued on next page...



overlay and Google Streetview was even better than I had hoped for. It was at a wide open grassy area that was some sort of Community Center. No one was pre-



sent in the area, and fortunately, there was a stand of trees that provided some privacy for the multiple piddle runs that were precipitated by that salt cured ham and copious coffee refills.

As is my normal practice, I walked down the road a bit to take a couple of pictures for documentation. On the way back to the car, I stepped into a hole and did a total face plant on the side of the road. My first thought was "Oh crap, I just broke my wrists...that probably won't help my CW skills much." As it turned out, my pain was transitory although my pride suffered a bit.

After some good runs (both on the air and into the stand of trees), it was time to move on at 2100Z.

I went to my final operating location of Cook/Lowndes which was at the intersection of two dirt roads. Since there was no county line sign here, I used Google Maps with county overlay and GPS to nail down the operating position. This was another promising location. I looked around and tried to gain permission from the land owner, even though I assumed that I was setting up on the road easement. Fortunately, a pickup truck came down the road, and it was the property owner. His name happened to be Stephen King. Stephen was very friendly



and was more than happy to have me operate there. He even showed me where the old county line

marker was, and told me a story about how the county line has been in limbo for many years. His Grandfather had deeded part of his property (in Lowndes County) to Cook County because they had promised to put in a road. This was many years ago. The road got built, but Cook County never actually resurveyed and changed the county line markers. To this day, if you call the police in Lowndes County, they will not come out since they claim this area is in Cook County. And of course, Cook County police will not respond since they claim the area is in Lowndes County. If you actually need assistance, you have to call the State Troopers. Why is this important???

Well, after a couple hours of operating, I looked up into my rearview mirror and saw flashing blue lights. You guessed it, it was the Georgia Highway Patrol.

Since the sun was glaring I had taped a plastic tarp across my windshield so I could see my computer screen. Apparently, someone driving by saw this and called the police. They told the police that some guy was doing something really strange and that he had covered his windshield with a tarp so you couldn't see his face. I explained to the trooper what I was doing and that one Mr. Stephen King, the property owner not the author, gave me permission. All was good.

I finished up the GAQP and headed home. There was a stop at another Waffle House – no country ham this time - for a late supper. On the way, I called my wife and said I anticipated being home around 2am. I actually climbed into bed at 1:52am and my wife woke up briefly. Her only comment was "I thought you said you weren't getting home until 2am". I think she was disappointed that she lost 8 minutes of her "quiet time alone".

Oh well...another SQP is in the books. 950+ contacts in GAQP and I did manage to get a few contacts in the other three SQP's.





Thoughts on Dayton

Chris Plumblee, W4WF, FCG President

This article is aimed primarily at an occasional or novice Hamvention attendee. I spent most of my ham radio career being too tight-fisted with my vacation time from work and my dollars for flights and hotels to attend Hamvention. I didn't actually pull the trigger on attending until 2016 thanks to N4WW helping cover the cost of my hotel, but I decided then and there that I'd never miss it again if I could possibly avoid it. If you've not ever been, or you've been a handful of times but you aren't sure whether you should go back, let me reassure you that it's totally worth it and I can't recommend it enough.

The big attraction at Dayton > 30 years ago was the flea market. There was no secondary market at the time for ham radio gear other than hamfests and maybe a club newsletter classified section, so if someone had something to sell, they would bring it. Enterprising sellers, ham and non-ham alike, also sold electronics and other items at the flea market. If you've walked through the flea market at Orlando or any other hamfest lately, you know those days are over. It seems like the same sellers are offering the same overpriced used gear and components as they were the year prior. The best deals are snapped up early, mostly by people who are going to resell the gear online. Since the rise of eBay and other online sales, the big attraction (to me) of hamfests moves to the new gear vendors. Where else can you browse new gear for sale from all the big vendors, and take most of it home with you that day if you can squeeze it into your suitcase? You can readily compare gear side by side, and try out several options before you commit. If there are new products, you can examine them closely before you make a decision about whether to purchase or not.

If you're like me, you don't make major ham radio purchases every month or even every year, so it's hard to justify the trip to Dayton just to look at new gear. However, the best part of Dayton may not even be at the hamfest site. It's the opportunity to socialize with other contesters and talk contesting at the contesters hotel, and that's available every year at no cost! If you're thinking that you're too unimportant or not well-known enough to get anything out of talking with the big guns at Dayton, then let me reassure you. In my experience, the majority of the big guns whose callsigns you've seen

at the top of the score tables are as approachable as can be, and are extremely patient with new hams. They all know that the hobby is like a vampire; it always needs new blood to thrive.

There are dozens of events, formal and informal, at Dayton. There's a DX dinner, a Topband dinner, a CWOps dinner, and the big daddy of them all, the Contest Dinner. I haven't attended all of them, but I think their titles are pretty self-explanatory. Attend whichever one(s) of them sound interesting. The DX dinner is at a different hotel from the others and is sponsored by the Southwest Ohio DX Association, and the CWOps dinner is at a restaurant in downtown Dayton, so plan accordingly. In my limited experience, each dinner will have a world-class speaker and will be a great experience with hams who share your specific interests.

The Contest Dinner was started by K3LR at least 30 years ago. In those days, the Crowne Plaza in Dayton was the contesters' headquarters, and the hospitality suites were legendary. Each night, the celebrities of the contesting world would get together and go to a restaurant for dinner, and the also-rans secretly hoped to be invited along. Tim decided that, rather than limiting the attendance to however many people could fit around a table at a restaurant, there was a market for an entire dinner with nothing but contesters. The food has often been nothing to write home about, but the company and the speakers have been top-notch.

From Wednesday night to Saturday night, the highlight of Dayton for me and for most attendees I talk to is the opportunity to chat with a wide cross-section of contesters. You'll meet people whom you only know as callsigns, and everyone you meet will be interested to talk about contesting! It's a very different experience than most hamfests or most club meetings.

If you're weighing whether to go to Dayton in 2022, I think you should consider it. I can't offer any expert analysis about the COVID risk of flying there and attending the event, but if it fits into your risk calculus, I can assure you that it's absolutely worth the expenditure and vacation time from work if you can swing it. If you have any specific questions about what to do or where to go, please reach out to me. I'll hope to see lots of you in Dayton and Xenia in May!



Fred, K4LQ and Sheila Perkins Memorial Service

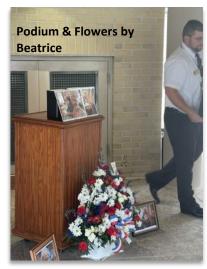
A Memorial Service was held for Fred, K4LQ and Sheila Perkins at Bushnell National Cemetery on March 11, 2022. The service was arranged by Beatrice Naples, a long-time friend of Sheila. Friends attended from Beatrice's family along with ham buddies of Fred. Beautiful flowers were provided by Beatrice's family. During a brief ceremony, a VA representative presented an American Flag to Beatrice. A family-friend of Beatrice read a passage from Psalms. Fred and Sheila's ashes were at the service and, afterward, taken away to be interred at the cemetery. Following the ceremony, everyone met at a local Sonny's to get acquainted and share stories of Fred and Sheila.







Beatrice & family - Bonnie WB4FSF & David - Jack K1KNQ & Margaret - Frank, K4EJ – Terry N4TB & Karen W4JA – John K4WJ & Susan



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Beatrice & family - Bonnie WB4FSF & David - Jack K1KNQ & Margaret - Frank, K4EJ – Terry N4TB & Karen W4JA– John K4WJ & Susan

Beatrice & family

John K4WJ & Susan - Bonnie WB4FSF & David – Frank K4EJ

Florida Contest Group Email Reflectors

George Wagner, K5KG

Two Group.io email reflectors were implemented by the FCG in 2018. They are FCG@groups.io and FCG@groups.io is limited to members in good standing of the Florida Contest Group. Since every FCG member in good standing is eligible to subscribe to FCG@groups.io, we encourage every member to do so, as it's a great way to keep in touch with the pulse of the club.

The FQP@groups.io reflector is devoted to the Florida QSO Party, and anyone world-wide can subscribe to it, and do! Currently, there are 146 subscribers on FQP@groups.io.

An important feature of any Group.io reflector is the ability of the user to make their own message delivery and filtering choices. Message delivery methods to choose from are no email, special messages only, individual messages, digest groupings of messages, text only messages, etc. Topics can be followed or muted, according to individual user preferences. This allows flexibility to provide filtering and format or groups.io messages.

Today, the FCG as a contest club has 341 members. Although every FCG member can subscribe to FCG@groups.io, we currently have only 316 who do.

Below is a link to an article that was posted to the FCG website in 2018. It explains the two FCG email reflectors in detail.

If you are an FCG member in good standing, i.e, dues paid, and wish to subscribe to FCG@groups.io, please click into this link where you will find information about signing up. Any new FCG members, upon payment of their dues, will receive an invitation to the FCG groups.io.

All FCG members, whether subscribed to FCG@groups.com or not, are asked to keep a current email address on file with the FCG.

https://floridacontestgroup.org/wp-content/uploads/FLORIDA-CONTESTS-GROUP-EMAIL-REFLECTORS.pdf



Side Lines

Editor's Note: I'd like to introduce **Side Lines**, a new column for the Contest Gazette. In a recent email, FCG member, Frank Merceret, NA4CW mentioned that he is a sci-fi author. Although we think of each other primarily as Hams, we all have many different interests that we pursue. It would be interesting to hear a little something about the other things that hold our attention. So, if you have another passion that you would like to share, feel free to send it along. My thanks to Frank for getting us started.

From Frank, NA4CW

In December of 2013 I retired from NASA to write a science fiction novel, the idea for which had been buzzing around in my head for several years. It took nearly a decade of learning the art and craft of turning story ideas in the mind into stories on paper, but with the help of a brilliant creative writing teacher, several excellent beta readers, and a marvelous editor, the story in my head at the end of 2013 is now two hard sci-fi novels getting five-star reviews on Amazon.

Neither of them explicitly involves amateur radio, but both involve engineering challenges that will appeal to anyone who liked *The Martian*, or who has worked in aerospace or other cutting-edge engineering environments. The science and engineering are made accessible without being dumbed down and have been carefully researched for accuracy. My hands-on experience with electronic instrumentation and communications equipment as a ham coupled with nearly two decades with NASA in spaceflight operations support informs the dialog, settings, vocabulary, and culture that permeates these two stories, <u>Wake Turbulence</u> and CATSPAW.

Wake Turbulence will be of special interest to FCG members. Good science enhances good fiction when a superluminal alien spacecraft's optical wake blazes over the Indian Ocean generating a human wake of its own. It features the detection, analysis and identification of the source of a huge broadband (HF through gamma rays) RF pulse as the main plot element of the story. In the real world, active hams would be all over that.

These two books are part of a planned trilogy called The Alcubierre Metric Connection. I have just begun work on the final book, tentatively named *Collision Course*. For more information about the series, please visit my author website My Stories







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FCAP Approved Contests, thru April 24 — July 30, 2022

Stan Zawrotny, K4SBZ

FCG Frequent Contester Program Administrator

For Complete Approved Contesting Schedule

| | | | Contest Schedule | | | | Modes | | | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----|------------------|-------|--------|-------------|-------|---|----|---|--------|--------|
| | | | | | | | | S | R | D | | |
| | | | Sta | | | <u>iish</u> | C | S | T | ı | | |
| Contest | Туре | Pts | Date | Time | Date | Time | W | В | Υ | G | Bands | Val'd? |
| SP DX RTTY Contest | DX | 5 | 23-Apr | 1200Z | 24-Apr | 1200Z | | | R | | 80-10 | Y |
| Helvetia Contest | DX | 5 | 23-Apr | 1300Z | 24-Apr | 1259Z | С | S | R | D | 160-10 | Y |
| Florida QSO Party | QSO | 20 | 30-Apr | 1600Z | 1-May | 2159Z | С | S | | | 40-10 | Υ |
| ARI International DX | DX | 5 | 7-May | 1200Z | 8-May | 1159Z | С | S | R | | 80-10 | Υ |
| 7th Call Area QSO | QSO | 7 | 7-May | 1300Z | 8-May | 0700Z | С | S | R | D | 160-10 | Y |
| Indiana QSO Party | QSO | 7 | 7-May | 1600Z | 8-May | 0400Z | С | S | | | 160-10 | Υ |
| Delaware QSO Party | QSO | 7 | 7-May | 1700Z | 8-May | 2359Z | С | S | R | D | 160-10 | Υ |
| New England QSO | QSO | 7 | 7-May | 2000Z | 8-May | 2400ZZ | С | S | R | D | 80-10 | Υ |
| CQ-M International | DX | 5 | 14-May | 1200Z | 15-May | 1159Z | С | S | | | 160-10 | Υ |
| VOLTA WW RTTY | DX | 5 | 14-May | 1200Z | 15-May | 1200Z | | | R | | 80-10 | Υ |
| Arkansas QSO Party | QSO | 7 | 14-May | 1400Z | 15-May | 0200Z | С | S | R | D | 80-2 | Υ |
| UN DX Contest | DX | 5 | 21-May | 0600Z | 21-May | 2100Z | С | S | | | 80-10 | N |
| His Maj. King of Spain | DX | 5 | 21-May | 1200Z | 22-May | 1200Z | С | | | | 160-10 | Υ |
| Baltic Contest | DX | 5 | 21-May | 2100Z | 22-May | 0200Z | С | S | | | 80 | Υ |
| CQ WW WPX | Maj | 10 | 28-May | 0000Z | 29-May | 2400Z | С | | | | 160-10 | Υ |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tisza Cup CW Contest | DX | 5 | 4-Jun | 1200Z | 5-Jun | 1159Z | С | | | | 160-10 | Υ |
| Kentucky QSO Party | QSO | 7 | 4-Jun | 1300Z | 5-Jun | 1300Z | С | S | R | D | 160-2 | N |
| VK Shires Contest | DX | 5 | 11-Jun | 0600Z | 12-Jun | 0600Z | С | S | | | 160-10 | Υ |
| Portugal Day Contest | DX | 5 | 11-Jun | 1200Z | 12-Jun | 1159Z | С | S | | | 80-10 | Y |
| GACW WWSA CW DX | DX | 5 | 11-Jun | 1500Z | 12-Jun | 1500Z | С | | | | 80-10 | Υ |
| ARRL VHF Contest | Maj | 10 | 11-Jun | 1800Z | 13-Jun | 0300Z | С | S | R | D | VU | Y |
| All Asian DX Contest, | DX | 5 | 18-Jun | 0000Z | 19-Jun | 2400Z | С | | | | 160-10 | Y |
| Stew Perry Topband | Maj | 10 | 18-Jun | 1500Z | 19-Jun | 1500Z | С | | | | 160 | Y |
| West Virginia QSO | QSO | 7 | 18-Jun | 1600Z | 19-Jun | 0400Z | С | S | R | D | 80-10 | Υ |
| His Maj. King of Spain | DX | 5 | 25-Jun | 1200Z | 26-Jun | 1200Z | | S | | | 160-10 | Υ |
| Ukrainian DX DIGI | DX | 5 | 25-Jun | 1200Z | 26-Jun | 1200Z | | | R | D | 80-10 | Υ |
| RAC Canada Day | DX | 5 | 1-Jul | 0000Z | 1-Jul | 2359Z | С | S | | | 160-2 | Υ |
| DL-DX RTTY Contest | DX | 5 | 2-Jul | 1100Z | 3-Jul | 1059Z | | 3 | R | | 80-10 | Y |
| Marconi Memorial HF | | | | | | | С | | Λ. | | | |
| IARU HF World | DX | 5 | 2-Jul | 1400Z | 3-Jul | 1400Z | | c | | | 160-10 | Y |
| | Maj | 10 | 9-Jul | 1200Z | 10-Jul | 1200Z | С | S | P | | 160-10 | Y |
| CQ Worldwide VHF | Maj | 10 | 16-Jul | 1800Z | 17-Jul | 2100Z | С | S | R | D | 6-2 | Y |
| North American QSO | Maj | 10 | 16-Jul | 1800Z | 17-Jul | 0600Z | | - | R | | 160-10 | Y |
| RSGB IOTA Contest | DX | 5 | 30-Jul | 1200Z | 31-Jul | 1200Z | С | S | | | 80-10 | Y |



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The Florida Contest Group



"I love contesting. There is something about the camaraderie, discipline and knowledge contesting demands that fits me; it doesn't fit everyone . . . but it sure fits me." – Jim White, K4OJ (SK)

The Florida Contest Group (FCG), an ARRL affiliated club, is Florida's amateur radio contest club. It's members share a common interest in the sport of amateur radio contesting. FCG members have a wide range of contesting experience, from beginners to World Champions. They willingly share their knowledge and skills to promote ham radio contesting in Florida. Members, who number in excess of 300, range from Jacksonville to South Florida. FCG has a "Panhandle" division for those contesters living in the Florida Panhandle who are outside the ARRL's 175 mile "club circle".

The Florida Contest Group supports and encourages all types of contesting, from HF to light, all modes, power classes and skill levels.

FCG Shirts

If you would like to purchase an FCG shirt, you may contact Joyce Ann at Stitchin' Waves in Sarasota. Joyce Ann has both Orange and White FCG shirts and FCG hats if you are interested. She embroiders the FCG Shirts with the FCG Logo and First Names and Call Signs. Hats are embroidered with the Call Sign.

Stitchin' Waves
Joyce Ann Wright
ja@stitchinwaves.com
941-929-1155

To place an order, send an email to Joyce Ann, and provide the following information:

- Identify yourself as an FCG member
- First and Last Name
- Call Sign
- Mailing Address (not a PO Box)
- Size of shirt
- Color: Orange or White

