

FLORIDA CONTEST GROUP EMAIL REFLECTORS

The Florida Contest Group (FCG) maintains two email reflectors on Groups.io. They are **FCG@groups.io** and **FQP@groups.io**. Groups.io was developed in 2014, and has become the most advanced email group service on the Internet. The FCG is using the Groups.io's basic service at no-cost. This service allows for an unlimited number of subscribers, provides a Group directory and calendar, the attachment of files and photos to messages, and offers 1GB of file and photo storage.

FCG@groups.io is for FCG members only. The FCG currently has 290 club members, of which 235 are subscribed to FCG@groups.io. FCG members are not obligated to belong to FCG@groups.io; however, we do encourage all members to belong. It's a way of keeping up with FCG discussions, contest information and other club activities.

When FCG@groups.io was set up earlier in 2018, every FCG member was sent an invitation; however some chose not to join or, perhaps, did not "get the memo". A few members, who initially subscribed, have since dropped out for various reasons. Any FCG member who is currently not subscribed is encouraged to sign up.

FQP@groups.io was established to support the Florida QSO Party which occurs every April, although some subscribers use it year-round. **This email reflector not limited to FCG members, and anyone can belong.** There are currently 83 subscribers on FQP@groups.io. As the 2019 FQP approaches, we expect the number of subscribers on FQP@groups.io to escalate rapidly.

Anyone wishing to subscribe to either email reflector may send an email request to George, K5KG at k5kg@k5kg.com. (Remember, however, **you must be a member of the Florida Contest Group to belong to FCG@groups.io.**) Upon receiving your request to join, George will send you an invitation to subscribe to the reflector. When you receive the invitation, simply follow the instructions, and sign yourself up.

Here are some tips about using the FCG@groups.io and FQP@groups.io reflectors:

- 1.) When you join a reflector, go into your **PROFILE**, and **enter your call sign and first name (or nickname) in the Display Name field. It is critical that your Display Name and/or email address identify your CALL SIGN so we can properly administer your account.** (We have had times when a "BillyBob" subscribed with an email address of "swampbuggy@xyz.com", leaving us in the dark about who he was because he did not provide a call sign.)
- 2.) You can post a photo in the PROFILE. This is optional, but if you do enter a photo, it will appear in the Directory of all subscribers. Typically, subscribers post their photo, but it could be a photo of their shack, antennas, etc.
- 3.) Subscribers can choose any one of these Email Delivery options
 - a. Individual Messages
 - b. Full Featured Digest – group of up to 12 messages individually (rich formatting)
 - c. Plain Digest – group of up to 12 messages individually (plain formatting)
 - d. Daily Summary – delivered in the morning of group's messages from previous day
 - e. No Email

- 4.) Subscribers can set up a Signature format to include in messages for Web or Email postings
- 5.) The reflectors are not moderated, so we ask all subscribers to keep their messages related to ham radio related-topics, and suitable for reading by all age groups. Frequently, subscribers will post for-sale, wanted-to-buy or how-to messages on the reflectors, and this is perfectly acceptable.
- 6.) The FCG's old email reflectors, fcg@kkn.net and fqp@kkn.net have been discontinued, and are no longer supported.

In summary, FCG@groups.io and FQP@groups.io are email reflectors that the FCG operates at no cost to the club or the subscribers. If you are currently a subscriber, please check the DISPLAY NAME in your PROFILE to make sure it identifies your CALL SIGN and NAME. If you are not a subscriber, drop me an email so I can get you on board.

73, George Wagner, K5KG

K5kg@k5kg.com