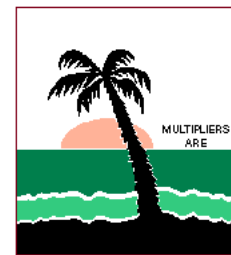




# Contest Gazette

## Florida Contest Group

www.floridacontestgroup.org



Volume 14 Issue 2

June 2007

### From the President's Corner

By Dan Street, K1TO

By far the biggest highlight since our last issue was our own Florida QSO Party. Once again, we will set a record for log submissions! Essentially, we're all sticking our tongues out at Mother Nature who provided a pretty miserable propagational experience. Thank goodness that the QRM from the SP RTTY contest on 40 CW and from the BS7H pileups on 20 were not as widespread as feared.

Thanks to Ron, K8NZ for banging the drum and helping to get folks aware of the FQP via various methods (direct e-mail, e-mails to clubs, posts to CQ-Contest, etc).

Several new mobiles appeared on the Florida roads again this year. Amazingly, two of the groups chose Multi-Multi! Many years ago, Hal, W1NN and Larry, N2AZS would do that for the PAQP, but this was a first for our FQP. Eric, K9ES joined KI4TG and KG4IPO, while Fred, K9VV (who originally wanted to sit in Lake Okeechobee at the 5 corners, but couldn't this year due to the low lake level) joined Sjaak, W4RIS and new member Vic, WA0USA.

Other new mobiles included Chuck, NO5W, driven by his lovely XYL Keri who did a great first-time job. Pat, N8VW, who is the author of the scripts that run the Counties-on-the-air FQP page, came down to operate along with Jeff, KU8E and they used Bill Fisher's memorial call W4AN. Bob, W4GJ was driven around north-central FL by FQP veteran Charlie, K8IJ who somehow resisted the urge to operate. Bob used W4F, perhaps our only 1x1 call this year in sharp contrast to the 1x1 explosion in both the OK and MI QPs this year. John, N4EEB, a force in SS in past years, reappeared with a strong effort. Paul, N4PN, used a 400W amp and did a bang-up job throughout NFL (Paul won the FQP from inside FL a number of times).

Amazingly, a number of record scores were set again this year, it appears! From out-of-state, perennial top gun W8MJ raised the bar for the Mixed group, while CW leader N2CU also eclipsed his own record. K1TO, a last-minute home station entrant, topped the Florida CW-only crowd.

Despite the miserable propagation in general, I heard an amazing thing! On 40 CW early Saturday afternoon, I suddenly heard several JAs working stations in their version of Sweepstakes. I even called N4TO on the phone and made

him listen to the speaker, since I don't have recording capability set up yet.

We'll need to sort out the proper wording for rules related to rovers who operate using more than mobile antennas, and also for those using APRS. The last minute attempt to expand the 40 CW mobile window down to 7020-7030 was met with mixed results and also needs to be addressed.

Also, we still need to complete the idea of offering citrus to top scorers to get us into the same realm as California offering wine, WA Salmon, etc. Nobody has yet volunteered to administer the Worked All Florida Counties award.

Thanks to Ron, WD4AHZ for already keying in all the paper logs received for the 2007 FQP.

Our friends in New England hosted another FB NEQP in early May and for the first time the FCG was a plaque sponsor. It looks like Paul, N4PN is claiming this contest as his personal, since he ran away with victory again this year.

Dayton was once again well attended by FCGers. See the pictures of both people and a sampling of the unusually large number of new equipment release that could be considered contesteer-friendly.

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With the FCG now sponsoring the WPX plaques for the top Multi-2 USA entry on both SSB and CW, K5KG hosted a CW M/2 with K8NZ and W4SAA, but fell short of the score from a group operating the N3HBX super station. FCG scores to appear in the next Gazette.

Now that the dog days of summer are here, many FCGers spent this weekend with FD groups. It seemed like the wx cooperated better than in most years. Please send your pictures and commentary to Fred for an upcoming Gazette.

Upcoming in a few weeks is my personal favorite summer contest - the IARU HF Championship. Activity levels on both CW and SSB are terrific and like WPX, you can work everyone for credit. Perhaps the most appealing factor is the duration - just 24 hours.

Speaking of 24-hour contests in July, there was a lot of excitement generated earlier this year for the IOTA Contest and we've covered all the FL IOTA groups except the Dry Tortugas. That contest is finally approaching the horizon - on July 28-29.

The BBQ meeting in Okeechobee County on April 14 was a blast again this year, as you can see from the review and pictures in this issue. Thanks again to KK4TA, KI4JKO and W4SAA for pulling it off!

Several of our 9 new members were present there. I see that the FQP is the most common thread among these folks! I believe that Lex, N4LF remains the only entrant to operate outside FL one day, then inside FL the other, during the same FQP! WA0USA (as part of the N4KK group) and N4EEB were quite active mobile this year. AI4QY enjoyed his first FQP this yr, thanks in large part to some K4PB coaching. N2ESP (at W4GAC), W4AMS, K4BK and W4EE have all also been past FQP participants.

Thanks again to Alan, K4PB who is offering his QTH for our upcoming next meeting on July 21. Details coming soon on the reflector. (When Sherri wins her election this fall, will this become the Director driven reflector?)

Another reminder re the Huntsville hamfest in August which is the ARRL National Convention this year. The FCG will likely participate in the Contest Forum along with the clubs from AL, GA and TN. <http://www.arrl.org/announce/nc/2007/huntsville.html> Any volunteers to present material?

What are your antenna/tower/indoor projects for this summer in preparation for the fall contests?!

Thanks to all who sent in photos and articles for this Gazette - keep 'em coming!

GO FCG! OJ!

vy 73, Dan, K1TO

## Submission Credits

Thanks to the following for submitting photos or allowing use of material for this issue: K1NSS, K1PT, K4EJ, K5KG, K9ES, K8CX Ham Gallery KJ4UY, KK4TA, N3ISH, N4CJ, W4DTA, ARRL Contest Rate Sheet, AR Newsline at Worldradio

## Welcome Aboard



The following new members have joined FCG since the last newsletter:

**W4AMS** - Angus M. Sims Jr., PO Box 576, Canal Point FL 33438 e-mail: gusmonroe@hughes.net

**N4EEB** - John Bayne, 121 Pinion Circle, Ormand Beach FL 32174 e-mail: n4eeb@arrl.net

**AI4QY** - Pete Wildman, 15239 110th Avenue North, Jupiter FL 33478-6818 e-mail: petewildman@bellsouth.net

**WA0USA** - Victor B. Kieffer III, 2470 Country Oaks Lane, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410 e-mail: vkieffer3@bellsouth.net

**K4BK** - James M. Rowe Jr., 900 Grape Lane, Jacksonville FL 32245-3148 e-mail: k4bk@arrl.net

**W4EE** - Jim Laughter, 2055 Highway A1A, Indian Harbour Beach, FL 32937 e-mail: vk8tx@yahoo.com

**N4UMH** - Michael W. Zulli, 7007 Hanford Ln, Jacksonville FL 32244 e-mail: mwzulli@aol.com

**N4LF** - Lex Felker, 920 Almas Court, Sanibel FL 33957 e-mail: n4lf@arrl.net

**N2ESP** - Bob Wanek, 4687 Neptune Dr. SE, St. Petersburg, FL 33705 e-mail: n2esp@arrl.net

## Events Calendar

**IARU HF World Championship** 1200Z, Jul 14 to 1200Z, Jul 15

**FCG Summer Picnic** at Alan, K4PB's QTH at Jupiter Farms, July 21. Details will be announced on the reflector

**North American QSO Party, RTTY** 1800Z, Jul 21 to 0600Z, Jul 22

**CQ Worldwide VHF Contest** 1800Z, Jul 21 to 2100Z, Jul 22

**IOTA Contest** 1200Z July 28 to 1200Z July 29

**North American QSO Party, CW** 1800Z, Aug 4 to 0600Z, Aug 5

**WAE DX Contest, CW** 0000Z, Aug 11 to 2359Z, Aug 12

**SARTG WW RTTY Contest** 0000Z-0800Z, Aug 18 and 1600Z-2400Z, Aug 18 and 0800Z-1600Z, Aug 19

**North American QSO Party, SSB** 1800Z, Aug 18 to 0600Z, Aug 19

## 15 Meter Antenna Repairs At K1PT

*By Paul Tibbetts K1PT*



N4BP is my HERO! He answered my query about a SFL tower service with a quick note saying that he was retired, liked to climb, and he would help me fix my 15 meter antenna problem. The 15M driven element and balun (which I suspected was bad) are 5 feet out from the mast on the F-12 C31XR. I designed and built the "platform" you see in the pictures. Bob saw the pix and said that it looked good to him and we picked a day. That day was yesterday and the pix show him and the "platform" at work. The balun was bad, replaced, and now all is well at K1PT. The platform did have an annoying side to side swing because of the torque on the tower and it set up an under-damped oscillation when Bob moved - It did bother Bob but he kept working. Hope you can use the pix for the gazette and the platform is available to anyone that needs it.

73,

Paul K1PT



## 2nd Annual FCG Spring Picnic At Camp Grace in Basinger

*By Fred Perkins K4LQ*



### INTRODUCTIONS

Attendees included: AA4HP and K4MVO, AI4QY, K1PT and KD1BG and Suda, XYL of N3RD, K1TO, K4LQ and Sheila, K4PB, K5KG and Kay and K9 Winnie (the poodle), K8NZ and KC8FOD, K9ES and Sylvia and 2 grandkids, KF4FSU, KG4SBS and XYL, KI4JKO, KI4VBO, KK4TA, N4CJ(G4BUE) and M0BUE, N4GI, N4TB, N4TO, W2OX and Alice, W3TB, W4AMS and nephew (Cito?), W4DKB and W4STB, W4JN and son WP2C, W4KPG, W4SAA.

Dan opened the meeting by thanking the hosts Joe W4SAA, David KI4JKO and Tom KK4TA for their hospitality. Strong applause!

David W4DKB was sitting centrally in the group. Dan asked him to stand and move slightly, then Dan asked the group how David looks with a "little moose in his hair". (There is a moose head (actually a caribou!) on a rafter).

Dan asked for attendees to identify themselves and tell the group what they intended to do in the FQP. Details in the FQP section of this report.

Dan asked for first time FCG Meeting attendees to introduce themselves:

- Scott, WP2C is Jon, W4JN's son and now lives in Bradenton. Scott has been in FL for 10 years after moving from Macon, GA. Somehow, Scott did not pick up that sweet mid Georgia accent, though. Scott was licensed at age 11 and a survey of the room revealed nobody who was licensed at a younger age – FB! Also, Jon's dad, Scott's grandfather, was N7AA and of course Jon's XYL Kay, KB4BBB is an FCGer as well.

- Pete, AI4QY lives near Alan, K4PB. He hopes to refurbish his Butternut vertical in time for this year's FQP and has 50' of Rohn 25 and a tribander that will go up later this year. Pete said he learned CW from WA0USA who is also associated with K9VV's upcoming FQP mobile adventure.

Alex W2OX/V47KP arrived late, so Dan pulled the "moose in the hair" caper on Alex. Alex told a story about his visit to Europe's largest hamfest in Friedrichshafen. The Bavarian Contest Club seems to have a lower average age than USA clubs, Alex observed. He said that FRC won the WAE club plaque many years in a row and suggests that the FCG should compete for it. The group managed to avoid a deep dive into the finer points of QTCs.

Dan passed the hat to help the picnic sponsors successfully defray the cost.

### SECRETARY/TREASURER

Fred has begun construction of the next newsletter. It will contain coverage of this meeting and highlights and pictures from the FQP. Paul K1PT and Fred are working on an article on line noise problems and solutions. There will be scores from WPX CW. Will also be publishing the first in a series of ham radio related cartoons by Jeff Murray, K1NSS. They are certain to evoke a few chuckles.

The club roster currently contains 196 members. We will lose up to 19 of them when Fred wraps up dues collection activities this weekend. Most are inactive or family members. Over the past three years we have been losing about 10 percent of our membership annually, and gaining it back by year end with new members.

Fred plans to introduce a more conventional dues collection process next year, with a two month window in January and February after which non-paying members are removed from membership. Allowing members to go for many months in arrears and trying to find out their intentions individually has turned out to be ineffective and time consuming, so that process will be dropped.

The FCG treasury contains \$5408.60. We also keep the W1CW/K4OJ Memorial Fund in our account for W1YL and it contains \$1957.

Speaking of W1YL, Fred visited Ellen this past weekend. She has antennas on the ground in her back yard that she would like to move out. There are (2) four element 15 meter yagis on 36 foot booms, a Butternut HF-2V 80/40 meter vertical. There are also (2) 10 meter yagis with broken parts that could be put together to make one functional antenna. (2) four element 20 meter yagis (204BAs) and a six element 15 meter yagi are currently tower mounted and will be available later. If there is any interest please contact Ellen or a club officer.

In the same vein, Fred and Dale W4QM have been working for the past 2 1/2 years to move out former member W4AI's antennas and equipment. John is currently in a nursing home in Sebring. We still have 140 feet of AB-105 tower of assorted lengths, some hardline, and several 2 inch dia. 1/2 inch wall thickness 24 foot masts available for pickup at no cost in Sebring.

Fred introduced George K5KG, who discussed our new FCG shirt and cap provider in Sarasota. Sample shirts and embroidered logos were demonstrated. The quality of the embroidery was excellent. They will be ready to take orders for shirts this coming week, and are working on a design for the FCG caps. The business is Stitchin' waves, at 4433 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota FL 34231. Shirts are priced at \$25 plus shipping. Cap prices to be determined. Shirts are not currently available with pockets. Their phone number is 800-514-9283 and the website is [www.stitchinwaves.com](http://www.stitchinwaves.com)

As an aside, George brought his new IC-7000 and a small portable antenna which he demonstrated. He will be using this setup on a DXpedition to the Cook Islands currently planned for November.

### FLORIDA QSO PARTY

Dan announced that it was just 13 days and 22 hours to the beginning of the FQP. He noted that Jim K4OJ had been a great publicist for the FQP, making such announcements in lots of venues up to the beginning of the contest. Dan asked for a volunteer to take over as FQP publicity chairman. Ron K8NZ stepped up to the plate.

Dan read the highlights from Jeff, WC4E's posting about the FQP 2006 certificates having all been mailed.

Dan noted that there were a record 755 logs turned in for last year's FQP. Two mobile groups from last year have dropped out this year, but at least seven new ones have been added, which means that we can anticipate another record year for total number of logs. Also, that might mean that the mobile windows will be cramped (bumper to bumper!), especially on 40M where we expect to announce a widening of the window to 7020-30.

Dan noted that there may be some QRM problems from the BS7 DXpedition that is scheduled to be active during the FQP weekend. Enthusiastic DXer Hank AA4HP surprised some attendees by noting that if he was unable to work the BS7 early in the DXpedition he planned to travel to California to try to work him, and as a result may not be working the FQP.

Dan noted that the FCG had introduced the Worked All Florida Counties award a few years ago. It had been administered by K4XS who has since moved to Hawaii. He asked if there were any volunteers that might be interested in taking over the administration of this award. No one volunteered.

A discussion ensued about the one place where 5 counties joined in the middle of Lake Okeechobee. Attempts by county hunters to reach and operate from this location have been thwarted by the low water level in the lake.

There will be at least one mobile M/M entry this year. K9ES will be operating CW with K14TG and KG4IPO doing SSB using separate stations in the same vehicle, using a pair of 132-lb batteries and a pair of Icom PRO-2s!

Other mobiles announced included K4KG (K5KG, VE7ZO) from 46 ctys, W4SAA (K14JKO driver, plus a navigator) from 44 ctys, KK4TA (with non-XYL driver) from 43 ctys, N4M (K8NZ, K1TO) with a new route to be announced ('NZ proclaims that the chirp will be reintroduced and 3000 Qs are a cinch), W4JN from Desoto and others, and KF4FSU from Okeechobee plans some SSB mobiling with brand new licensee Alicia, K14VBO who got her license on Wednesday (applause).

Many fixed stations will be active, including high power CW from K4LQ, N4TO and N4TB (as W4JA). K1PT and K4PB will be on CW and might opt for Mixed. N4GI (defending total QSO champion), W3TB, W4AMS (SSB), KG4SBS (SSB), W4KPG (LP CW), W4STB (voice of IDR) and WP2C (LP) also plan to be on. W4JN will op some high power mixed from home, in addition to being /m. Also see note re AA4HP later.

Enthusiasm for the FQP was apparent as nearly everyone present will be active!

#### OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

Dan noted that a key sponsor of the New England QSO Party (NEQP), the Yankee Clipper Contest Club (YCCC) sponsors an FQP plaque, so he suggested that the FCG should do the same for the NEQP that occurs one week after the FQP. Attendees agreed.

Speaking of other QSO parties, Dan mentioned how the FQP was a catalyst for many others, including the NEQP, the GQP being held this weekend and the new COQP to be held in July. Also, the Michigan QSO Party next weekend plans to host a lot of 1x1 calls similar to what Oklahoma did a few weeks ago. The use of K4J and N4M in our FQP last year may have helped to spark that activity.

Dan cited Tom, KK4TA's efforts in getting citrus prizes available to match the CA wine, WA salmon and GA peaches/pecans.

A show of hands indicated that a few planned to attend the Dayton Hamvention in May and one (K5KG) will attend the Contest University beforehand.

Dan noted that FCG now sponsors plaques for the top WPX Multi-Two on SSB and CW. He asked if anyone in the club plans to compete for the CW plaque on Memorial Day weekend. K5KG, W4SAA and K8NZ will team up from KG's.

Dan noted that Mike W4UM is promoting club participation in the IOTA contest this year. So far we have 9 of the 10 IOTA island groups in Florida covered by planned operations by club members. The only one not covered is the Dry Tortugas. Permission is required to go there.

Alan K4PB announced that he will sponsor the FCG Summer Picnic at his home at Jupiter Farms near West Palm Beach on Saturday, July 21.

Dan noted that the FCG has been asked to share responsibility for the contest presentations at the ARRL National Convention at the Huntsville Hamfest the third weekend of August. We would share that responsibility with SECC, TCG and ACG.

My thanks to Dan K1TO for his editing of this longest ever meeting report.

73/Fred K4LQ  
Secretary/Treasurer FCG



*Dan K1TO Conducts The Meeting*



*Alex, W2OX/V47KP survives the "moose in the hair" caper!*



*Members chat in the tranquility of Camp Grace before the call to lunch. The main building in the background is where the barbeque was served and the meeting was held.*



*L-R, Ron K8NZ holds the chicken tray while Sponsor David KI4JKO pulls more chicken off the grill.*



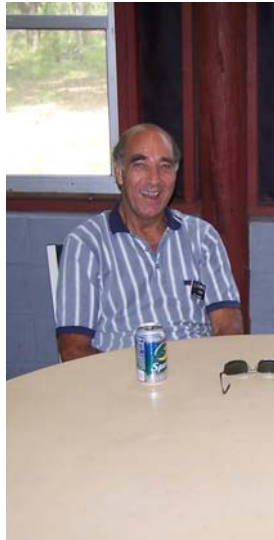
*Sponsor Joe W4SAA smiles as he contemplates another great mobile performance in the upcoming FQP*



*Jon W4JN and son Scott WP2C*



*Ted W3TB operates K5KG's Icom-7000 while  
Fred K4LQ looks on*



*Eric W4KPG    Terry N4TB    Chris G4BUE/N4CJ*



*Stephanie K4MVO    Hank AA4HP*



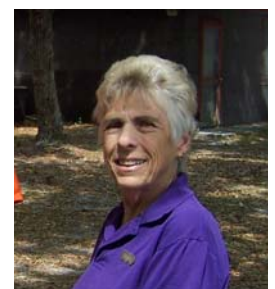
*Sponsor  
Tom KK4TA*



*Vic N4TO*



*Sheila  
XYL K4LQ*



*Sylvia  
XYL K9ES*

## New Equipment shown at The Dayton Hamvention



***Elecraft K3 HF/6M, 100-W All-Mode Transceiver—Factory Assembled or Modular, No-Soldering Kit  
Detailed specs at [www.elecraft.com](http://www.elecraft.com)***

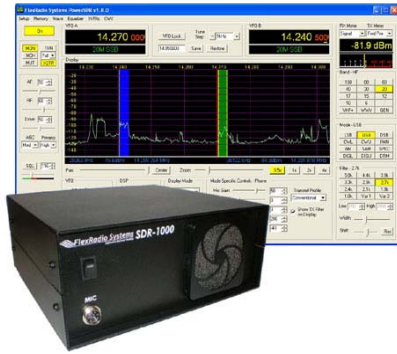


***Icom IC-7700 HF/6m, 200-W All Mode Tranceiver  
Billed as “The Contesters Rig”  
Detailed specs at [www.ab4oj.com/icom/ic7700/main.html](http://www.ab4oj.com/icom/ic7700/main.html)***



***Hilberling PT-8000 HF/VHF (160 - 2M)  
600W/100W/10W All Mode Transceiver***

***The North America distributor is Array Solutions  
<http://www.arrayolutions.com/>***



***Flex-Radio SDR-1000 and Flex-5000 100 and 300 watt software defined radios.  
Detailed specs at [www.flex-radio.com](http://www.flex-radio.com)***



***Array Solutions is distributing the SPE Expert 1K-FA solid-state linear amplifier. It is a compact light weight (44 pounds) fully automated, full break-in capable amplifier that puts out 1000 W PEP on 160 through 10 meters (700 W PEP on 6 meters). It has an internal 120 or 240 V ac power supply and antenna tuner.***



***Dishtronix Prometheus DX2400LI Amplifier***

***Advertised as a 160-10m 2400W PEP broadband solid state no tune amplifier***

***It can be yours for a mere \$9250***

***Detailed specs at [www.dishtronix.com/prod01.htm](http://www.dishtronix.com/prod01.htm)***



***Left: The one piece of equipment at Dayton that really counts for an FCCer.***

***A smiling Blake N4GI walks out of the Contest Dinner with the door prize, an ICOM 756 PRO III transceiver. (followed by ex FCCer Eric ex-KU4TF now N3UH)***

## Contest University - Dayton 2007 By Tim Duffy K3LR - CTU Chairman

(From the ARRL Contest Rate Sheet)

After a year of preparation, 150 students and 11 professors participated in 10 hours of intense contesting instruction covering some 22 topics. CTU students came from all over the USA and from DX QTHs like DL, YV, G, GU and GD. The youngest student was 9 year old W9JJC! Sixteen dual-track classes and seven common courses were completed, including a "working" lunch and a live K1DG Sprint contest.

I'd like to thank CTU Professors of Contesting N6BV, K1DG, M0DXR, W9ZRX, N5OT, N5TJ, K8MR, K5ZD, N6AA and N2NT. The CTU Board of Directors are N9JA, K1AR and K1DG. CTU 2007 would have never happened without the help of Ray Novak, N9JA and Icom America. CQ Magazine, DX Engineering and the ARRL all stepped in to help make CTU 2007 a huge success.

Planning and Preparation has already started for Contest University 2008, again on Thursday before the main Dayton hamfest, including a full graduate school program for returning CTU students that graduated this year. Stay tuned to the official CTU web site



*Above: Tom K5RC holds his Contest Hall of Fame Plaque standing beside George K5KG who addressed the Contest Dinner in support of Tom's nomination.*

*Right: Steve W4DTA and the Icom Girl*

*Ed Note: "And they told me all you would see at Dayton was boat anchors"*

## CQ Contest Hall of Fame inducts 3 new members at Dayton

(From the ARRL Contest Rate Sheet)

Fred Capossela, K6SSS, is a past CQ World Wide DX Contest Director and, for the past 40 years, has maintained and annually updated the CQWW All-Time Records List. It was under Fred's direction that the CQWW became the world's most popular and most professionally-run amateur radio contest. The first contesteer to run the contest, Fred introduced the rigorous verification standards for contacts and multipliers, developed the All-Time Records List, set the current contest dates and introduced the Band-by-Band top scorers' matrix. It was Fred's dedication to running the contest in a fair, honest and professional manner that laid the foundation for the CQWW's current stature.

Phil Goetz, N6ZZ (SK), has the distinction of having operated the CQWW DX Contest from each of the world's 40 CQ zones - one of only two amateurs ever to accomplish this feat (Dick Norton, N6AA, is the other) - and missed operating in the CQWW only three times in the 47 years between 1960 and 2006. Phil was a member of the first ARRL Contest Advisory Committee and served three separate times on the CQWW Contest Committee. In addition, he was a judge at every World Radio Team Sport Championship (WRTC) event, except in 2002, when he was a contestant. Phil became a Silent Key earlier this year.

Tom Taormina, K5RC, has been contesting since 1959, when he entered the ARRL Sweepstakes and made a whopping 35 contacts. His scores improved dramatically since then, and he has held several records and won several national and divisional championships. He has also mentored a string of world-class contesters, who have themselves gone on to record-setting performances. Tom helped develop the Multi-Two category in the ARRL DX contests and helped create the North American QSO Party. He is also a past member of the CQ WW Contest Committee and a past Editor of the National Contest Journal. Tom is also active in DXing





*Not everyone stayed at the Crowne Plaza Above is Tom KK4TA's campsite*



*Carsten DL6LAU and Larry KJ4UY*

### Final Scores ARRL 160 Meter Test (FCG)

Call	Score	QSOs	Mult	Class	Section
WJ9B	144507	819	87	C	NFL
N4TB	136394	696	94	C	WCF
W4AA	84542	500	82	B	NFL
N4BP	83898	518	79	C	SFL
K5KG	49275	317	75	C	WCF
N6AR	32760	219	72	C	NFL
WX4G	32435	256	65	C	WCF
W4FDA	30388	201	71	C	NFL
W7QF	28248	202	66	C	NFL
W4IR	25080	179	66	C	WCF
W4OV	5453	63	41	C	SFL
AD4TR	4978	68	38	C	NFL
N4EK	2522	48	26	B	NFL
N4WO	140	10	7	B	NFL



*K9GX, N4GN and FCGer Charlie NF4A*

### Global QSL Unveiled

From the AR Newsline at Worldradio News

A pair of Israeli Hams teamed up to create what they call a unique approach to QSLing with real cards over the Internet. Called Global QSL, it was developed by Azar Hami, 4X6MI, and Paul Gross to give Hams with web access a way to design and send out QSLs to other Hams and SWLs. First you register with Global QSL. There is no fee for the registration. Next, you download their graphic editing tool to design your own QSL cards and upload your finished work to Global QSL's server.

Once the QSL design is in place, users can then upload the QSO information using either the standard ADIF format found in most electronic log programs, or by manually uploading the QSO information. QSL cards are then printed, sorted, and forwarded to the respective QSL bureaus around the world. Additional information on Global QSL, how it works, and the cost of printing and mail-out is on-line at [www.globalqsl.com](http://www.globalqsl.com)

### Final Scores ARRL 160 Meter Test (FCG Panhandle)

Call	Score	QSOs	Mult	Class	Section
NF4A	4448	68	32	B	NFL
KN4Y	2300	48	25	B	NFL
KC4HW1449		37	23	B	AL

### So A 48 Hour Contest Is A Long Time ?

JH8GWW Yas finished up working all 3077 counties 6-1-1. From start to finish was 22 years. Now that is dedication. 73 George N3ISH



*Ed Note: The cartoon to the left is from the inimitable pen of Jeff Murray KINSS. Jeff's cartoons were brought to my attention by Ron WD4AHZ. Jeff's material is copyrighted, but he generously agreed to let us publish some of his cartoons in the Gazette...so you will be seeing them from time to time. Most are physically smaller, but I got a chuckle out of this one.*

## FCG Has a New Clothing Supplier

*Ed Note: Thanks George K5KG for coordinating this activity.*

The FCG has a new supplier for shirts and hats embroidered with the FCG logo, member name and call sign. The supplier is Stitchin' Waves in Sarasota:

<http://www.stitchinwaves.com/>

Here is the deal: The club has paid to have our color logo, "FLORIDA CONTEST GROUP MULTS ARE" digitized, and Stitchin' Waves is offering special pricing to all FCG members for shirts and hats. The quality of the embroidery is excellent, as is the quality of the shirts and hats.

The prices are as follows:

Jerzee brand shirt, short sleeve, no pocket, embroidered with FCG logo, member name and call sign. - \$25 + sales tax and shipping. Shirts are available in orange or white, and in both men's and women's sizes.

Anvil brand baseball cap, adjustable (one size fits all) with bronze clip in back. Logo will be on the front of the hat and name and call sign on the back. White color only. \$12.69 + sales tax and shipping.

Florida sales tax varies by county.

Shipping by USPO First Class is \$4.95 for a package containing a hat, shirt or hat + shirt.

Shipping by UPS is \$9.95 for a hat, shirt or hat + shirt to a residence, or \$6.95 to a business.

Please place your orders directly with Stitchin' Waves. Identify yourself as a Florida Contest Group member. They can be reached at 941-929-1155.

## New Contesting Website Launched

Dan K1TO noted recently on the reflector that a new contesting website has come online recently.

It is at : <http://www.radio-sport.net>

It was constructed by Jamie Dupree, NS3T ( who is a frequent FQP op).

He solicits input from the top scorers and puts together news articles.

Also check out the latest attempt at ranking world ops. RTTY and 160 guys should be encouraged as at least 3 of the contests used for criteria are dedicated to each of those pursuits.

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