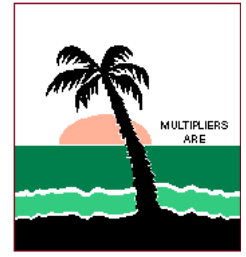




Contest Gazette

Florida Contest Group

www.floridacontestgroup.org



Volume 13 Issue 2

April 2006

From the President's Corner

By Dan Street, K1TO



What a great time of year this is! Spring is in the air, Daylight Savings kicks in to give that precious extra hour before dusk, the days are getting longer, tourist season is pretty much over, storm season is still a ways off, and, oh yeah, the FQP approaches!

Now add to that the new annual entry on the FCG calendar - the BBQ in OKE County. Mega-thanks to Tom, KK4TA and Joe, W4SAA for gently twisting the arms of new member David, KI4JKO and his wife Pam. Camp Grace has just the right facility for us and it was great to see many spouses enjoying their day, too.

Welcome aboard to our newest members -- what a super group! Hank and Stephanie, AA4HP and K4MVO, were the kind hosts of a successful FCG M/2 operation for ARRL CW. Bill, W4TAA is building quite a nice station as a retirement hobby in south Sarasota County. David, K5RQ, also in south Sarasota County, posted a real nice score with minimal antennas during the WPX SSB and is hungry to do even better for WPX CW. Sjaak, W4RIS comes to us with an interesting ham radio resume and is also PA3GVR. Tatino, HI3CCP joined us at the Orlando meeting and described his VFB station, inviting FCGers to come and operate. If you've paid attention to WPX SSB scores in recent years, you've noticed the huge numbers coming from Tatino and his crew. Also welcome to Floyd, KK3Q and David, KI4JKO, also described as the fabulous co-host of the recent BBQ. Joe, W4SAA gets credit for the Elmering here, and has convinced David to drive him around again this year in the FQP.

Turnout for the ARRL DX Contests was terrific. Thanks to the TallyMan for helping to rally the troops! I just want to clarify and reiterate one basic tenet of this club. Nobody forces you to get on the air. We have a number of members who contribute to the club without it necessarily being in the form of a score submission. If you get on, super! If not, let us help you if you need it. Many of us moved to Florida to get away from the hustle-bustle and demands of northern life and I intend to honor that lifestyle choice! Finally, there are only a precious few of us who have the time, energy and interest to participate in a

contest nearly every weekend. The rest of us pick our spots. OK, back off the soapbox...

Gotta love the FCG expeditions. Check out the wonderful pix of the NP2B and J7OJ groups. Nice to see the banner being displayed in another country!

We are all disappointed to see that the timing of Bill & Holly's move to KH6 means that K4XS had to decline his WRTC invitation. Dave, N2NL, temporarily out in CA but coming back to FL some day, becomes our lone FCG competitor. Ron, K8NZ opted not to go as a referee, leaving Charlie, NF4A and Tony, W4OI as FCG ref reps. I'm sure the 3 of them will have a great time. Support the WRTC however you can, even if that's with a few QSOs on July 8. The teams will be disguised, but you just might be helping Dave & Dan eke out a victory with each QSO!

FQP results for 2005 are out now and plaques and certificates are being completed and mailed. Given

Inside this Issue

<i>Welcome Aboard, Events Calendar.....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Orlando Hamfest Meeting Report.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>FCGers Elected SFDXA Officers, Caffeine Nap.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Musings from the TallyMan before ARRL Phone.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Claimed Scores in the ARRL DX Contests.....</i>	<i>6, 7</i>
<i>Post DX Contest Reflections by K4EJ</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>SS CW Final Scores, W4IR Contest Score Excuse.....</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Pictures from the NP2B ARRL DX Phone Contest..</i>	<i>10,11</i>
<i>Pictures from J7OJ ARRL DX CW Operation.....</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Wilma Repairs at KIPT</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>K9ES relocates, begins building new antenna farm....</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Phone Contest Troubleshooting Guide - By N0AX.....</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>NF4A Selected National Engineer of the Year.....</i>	<i>16</i>

the announced operations for this year, particularly the mobiles, we could have a tremendous turnout and some big numbers posted. Just off the top of my head, we have the following mobiles committed for this year: VE7ZO/K5KG, K4PG/N4BP, N4KM/K0LUZ, W4OV/K4LQ, N4M (K8NZ/K1TO), G4BUE/N4TO (part-time), K4J (W4SAA, with KI4JKO driving), KN4Y (XYL driving), KK4TA (XYL driving), W5WMU (XYL driving), and self-driven ops N4OO, KC4HW, W1NN, KU8E, AD8J. Wow! A few of the multi-op teams are shuffled from past years, but the best note about the above list is that many were not on last year and are either returning from 2004 or trying it for the first time. Status of a number of other non-FCG mobiles is not yet known, but you can bet that others will be out there, too. I'm honestly concerned that our mobile windows are not wide enough, especially on 40 CW! With NF4A unable to participate, it would be super if any of you can pay extra attention to the western-most counties of ESC, OKA and SAN. I know that Jim, KC4HW and Pat, W5WMU are including those three in their routes, but the coverage is still weakest up there of anywhere in the state. By the way, those 1x1 calls are exceedingly easy to obtain.

Need any further inspiration to be radio-active? Flip to p.14 and look at the pictures from Eric, K9ES and read about his plans. Sheesh - this is a guy who lost antenna farms two years in a row to hurricanes. Heck, Eric's not even retired and he finds the time for this. Fantastic! Oh, and the recent Sept VHF results write-up in QST features a picture of young guest op Eliot, KI4AEI, also courtesy of host Eric during the brief period that Eric's antenna farm #2 stood proud.

K1PT's crane pix are neat, too. How Paul's 40M beam folded over in the hurricane, yet stayed useful was an interesting story to follow over the past contest season. Still, I'm sure that he and Pidge are happier with the conventional configuration again.

I enjoyed my trek up to Fort Walton Beach last month, mixing in some spring training baseball with N4WW and some jai-alai (blast from my CT past) at a new(!) fronton up in Hamilton County north of the I-75/I-10 junction. Also see the Orlando meeting summary on p.3.

It's great to see that the Sea of Orange will continue at the Dayton Contest Dinner, as many folks have announced their intent to attend this year, some for the first time. Having been to at least 10 in a row, your Prez is taking a year off from Dayton this time.

GO FCG! OJ!

Vy 73, Dan, K1TO

Welcome Aboard



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

AA4HP Hank Phillips, 3850 Champion Rd., Titusville, FL 32796
e-mail: aa4hp@titustek.com

K4MVO Stephanie Phillips, 3850 Champion Rd., Titusville, FL 32796
e-mail: k4mvo@titustek.com

W4TAA Bill Brown, 8791 Westward Drive, North Port, FL 34286
e-mail: w4taa@daystar.net

K5RQ David Brandenburg, 401 North Point Rd # 1002, Osprey FL 34229
e-mail: davidbra@sprynet.co

KK3Q Floyd Larck, PO Box 680, Clarcona FL 32710
e-mail: hamradio@kk3q.net

W4RIS Sjaak van Dam, 9129 C S.W. 5th Street, Boca Raton FL 33528
e-mail: pa3gvr@amsat.org

HI3CCP (Hon. Mbr.) Constantino Pichardo, Calle Sur # 6 Residencial, Santiago A Post 327, Dominican Republic
e-mail: hi3ccp@arrl.net

N4WO Greg McCraw, 11040 Flicker Rd., Brooksville FL 34613
e-mail: cwdxer@tampabay.rr.com

KI4JKO David Graham, 19805 Hwy 98 North, Okeechobee FL 34972
e-mail: dgraham1995@hotmail.com

Call sign Changes: **KI4FJW** is now **W4HMB**, **KA0GGI** is now **K4EJ**

Events Calendar

Florida QSO Party 1600Z, Apr 22 to 0159Z, Apr 23 and 1200Z-2159Z, Apr 23

MARAC County Hunter Contest, CW 0000Z, May 7 to 2400Z, May 8

CQ WW WPX Contest, CW 0000Z, May 27 to 2359Z, May 28

ARRL June VHF QSO Party 1800Z, Jun 10 to 0300Z, Jun 12

ARRL Field Day 1800Z, Jun 24 to 2100Z, Jun 25

The Orlando Hamfest Meeting Report

The February FCG Meeting in conjunction with the Orlando Hamfest was held in a private meeting room at the Golden Corral restaurant on February 11.

Attending were: AD4Z/HI3A, AI4MK, G4BUE/N4CJ, HI3CCP & Theresa, KOLUZ, K1TO, K4DDR, K4LQ, K4XS, K9ES, KA0GGI & Ming, KC4HW, KE1F & Ann, KG4IPO, KI4HCM & Barb, KK4TA, N2RM, N4EK & KD4BRJ, N4GI, N4KM, N4WW, N6AR, W1MO, W1YL, W3AZD & WB3ANE, W4CEO, W4DKB & W4STB, W4DTA, W4KPG, W4SAA, W4TV, W4UM & W4SLR, W4YA, W4ZW and WJ9B. Also at the hamfest but unable to attend the meeting were AF2C, K1HG, K1PT, K4VUD, K4XSS, KP2N, KR4U, N4KW, NP2B and Jeanette, W2CQ, W3TMZ and WA4EEZ

Dan, K1TO opened the meeting by banging 3 gavels together. These gavels were those won by FCG in the 2002, 2003 and 2004 ARRL 10 Meter Contest. He noted that if the present claimed scores hold up, FCG stands a good chance of a 4-peat by winning the 2005 10 Meter Contest in the Medium Club Category.



He welcomed visitors from HI (Tatino HI3CCP), G (Chris G4BUE/N4CJ) and New Jersey (Bob N2RM).

Dan noted that tomorrow will be the second anniversary of the death of our Founding Father Jim White K4OJ. George K5KG and 4 others (including FCGers W4IX and K1XX) will again be activating J7OJ next weekend in the ARRL CW DX Test.

Dan invited all attendees to identify themselves and let us know which of the upcoming springtime contests they plan to operate in. The most frequently cited plan was for the FQP - hooray! Healthy activity is forecasted for the upcoming ARRL DX and WPX contests as well.

When HI3CCP identified himself, he issued an invitation for FCG members to come to the Dominican Republic and operate his super station, which is located on Loma del Toro (the hill of the bull) at a height of 1084 meters in the community of Amacelles Moca. See details of the station on QRZ.com under HI3CCP.

When Joe W4SAA identified himself, he and Tom, KK4TA unveiled the idea of using Camp Grace in Basinger (near Okeechobee) as a possible site for a summer picnic to replace the Vicnic.

Fred K4LQ gave a summary of his activities as secretary/treasurer/newsletter editor. 79 members had paid 2006 dues prior to the meeting date, (41% of last years 192 members). 14 additional members paid at the meeting. Current treasury figures are \$3539, and \$2017 in the W1CW/K4OJ Memorial Fund. Fred thanked members for inputs to the Newsletter, noting that submissions from members are increasing. Several pages of the March newsletter are already in the template. Score spreadsheets and eligibility lists as required have been submitted to contest sponsors, and are up to date. Many thanks to Frank KA0GGI for his help with spreadsheets, his Gazette articles and his prodigious output as the 2005/6 Contest Season Tallyman. New members signed up at the meeting included: N6AR/4 - Larry in Winter Garden, KG4IPO - Jeff in Melbourne, and WO4D - Frank in Melbourne.

Dan announced that Bill K4XS has been selected for WRTC-2006 in Brazil and has chosen Tom K1KI as his partner (applause). It was confirmed that the club has made a contribution to WRTC-2006 as well.

Dan thanked Jim W4YA for arranging the meeting place at the Golden Corral (applause).

Dan commented on some of the FQP 2005 results:

- Bill K4XS set a new mixed mode record by just over 1% (applause)
 - Joe W4SAA averaged over 100 Q/hr in his driver assisted mobile operation (applause)
 - Hal W1NN made 1999 qsos in 20 hours while driving himself in a rented car. This is inspiration to G4BUE who is considering a mobile operation for 2006, but is concerned about the set-up required.
- Members operated from a number of out of state locations:
- K5KG made a Mixed Mode sweep from Utah, one of the few ever recorded from that far west
 - K8NZ made a bunch of QSOs on CW from Ohio
 - K9OM operated from WI, finishing very high in the Mixed Mode category
 - N4PN crushed the Georgia record by trawling for QSOs on 40M for most of the day and managing some back-scatter QSOs on 20
 - G4BUE made a CW county sweep from the UK, only the 2nd ever accomplished from "over the pond" (applause)

The membership is also encouraged to circle April 22-23 on their calendars for this year's FQP to avoid confusion, since April 2006 has 5 full weekends.

Jim KC4HW is coordinating the AL QP for 2006, to be held the weekend after the FQP on April 29-30. See alabamaqsoparty.org for full details.

Dan noted that K9VV had volunteered last week to host the "Victornic" on July 22, suggesting we rotate locations each year to different parts of the state. Further discussion will be held on the reflector, K9VV vs W4SAA locations etc.

Dan asked if anyone had copied the Suitsat on 2 meters. No one in the club had. KE1F noted that a neighbor had copied it on the ISS retransmission on 70 cm (440 Mhz).

Dan read an excerpt of an article in January CQ Magazine. W4YO (ex K4HNA, etc), a DXer for 50 years, recalled N4TO's (then K4SHB) generosity in 1965 of lending an amplifier so that he could work CE0X for a new one.

Norbert OM6NM, one of our honorary members, is looking for a used FT1000MP and asks if anyone knows of one for sale.

Doug K4DDR brought up the subject of lifetime memberships to FCG as a way of reducing the admin. workload on our treasurer (and on the members themselves). A brief discussion ensued and will continue on the reflector. A show of hands indicated that a few of the attendees would take advantage of such a plan.

HI3CCP was voted in as an honorary member of FCG by acclamation (applause).

Bill K4XS called for a round of applause for our President K1TO for the fine job he is doing.

The meeting was completed at around 2 PM, not long after which the skies opened to torrential downpours.

Many thanks to Dan K1TO for his usual FB editing of this report.

73, Fred K4LQ
Secretary, FCG

FCGers Elected as SFDXA Officers

Members of the South Florida DX Association (SFDXA) have elected the following people to serve on the 2006-2007 Board of Directors for their club:

President Steve Romagni, W4DTA (FCG)
V.President Bruce Phegley, W4OV (FCG)
Treasure Bill Marx, W2CQ (FCG)
Secretary Richard Gillingham, W1RG (FCG)
Director Norm Alexander, W4QN
Director Kappy Kaplan, WA4WTG
Director Mark Horowitz, K2AU
Director Don Search, W3AZD (FCG)

The Caffeine Nap

From Field and Stream via the CQ Contest Reflector

Sleep researchers at the Loughborough University in Britain did several tests on fatigued drivers to compare the effects of different methods for a driver can use to stay awake. They put the volunteers in driving simulators while they were sleepy and let them drive. Some of the tests included rolling down windows for cold exposure, blasting the radio and slapping oneself in the face to try to stay awake. But what researchers found worked the best was a **Caffeine Nap**.

The Caffeine Nap is simple. You drink a cup of coffee and immediately take a 15 minute nap. Researchers found coffee helps clear your system of adenosine, a chemical which makes you sleepy. So in testing, the combination of a cup of coffee with an immediate nap *chaser* provided the most alertness for the longest period of time. The recommendation was to nap only 15 minutes, no more or less and you must sleep immediately after the coffee.

Might be worth a try for single ops and low band ops at multi multi's.

Yamaha V Star Custom 1100 (FQP Ready)



*Alternate plan last spring, but decided to take the truck. :-)
This is the bike that did Sturgis last summer and will go this August. 73, Bob Patten, N4BP Plantation, FL*

Musings from the Tallyman (KA0GGI) just before the ARRL Phone DX Contest

The first paragraph is from N0AX's 2005 Web Report of the ARRL DX UNLIMITED Club results ...



The Unlimited club list is populated by the same group of clubs as in 2004, with Frankford Radio Club taking the gavel 6% ahead of Yankee Clipper Contest Club--not quite so close as last years photo finish. They were followed by the Potomac Valley Radio Club and the Society of Midwest Contesters. Minnesota Wireless Association moved up one position to 5th, trading places with the Northern California Contest Club. Similarly, Contest Club Ontario bumped Florida Contest Group to 10th. The Unlimited Clubs are certainly good for contesting--they represent 783 entries, which is over half of all club entries.

Last year, FCG had a total combined (CW + SSB) score of 17,627,373 from FIFTY-SIX (56) submitted logs for the DX "twins" ... an average log score of 314,775 points.

So far, with FORTY-EIGHT (48) calls in the CW TallySheet, and THIRTY-THREE (33) or 69% of those CW logs "confirmed", our Club is well ahead of last years pace ... all things considered from results Tally's To Date, we are showing an average log score of 525,669 (up a whopping 67% over last years combined FCG effort). We're obviously "hitting it harder" this year ... it's certainly not "old sol" helping us out ...it's US ... and the Spirit of FCG !!

I expect that the additional SSB logs (TWENTY-THREE calls in the SSB Tally Sheet) will lower our average aggregate 525,669 CW log score to date, but that's not a concern. Let's use the Law of Large Numbers concept for a prediction ... last years 783 total entries shows an average log score of 818,205 ... well, that blows where I was

heading, with that number being higher than our average CW log score, so let's try it this way ... we had 56 logs last year at an average of 314,775 points per log. This year, our goal was a combined 75 logs, and we've "Tally'd" a combined SEVENTY-ONE FCG call signs so far ... I'm writing this about noon on Friday, and will be going outside after I finish, to retune the Hustlers on the Silverado Mobile for the center of the SSB bands in preparation for a 7PM start tonight ... so ... I'll assume 75 logs combined (surprises are MOST WELCOMED!) at an average of the midpoint between last years actual and this years "to date" ... which equals a predicted 75 logs averaging 420,222 points each. That yields a guess of 31,516,650 (total combined CW + SSB), which WOULD HAVE put us on the FOURTH PLACE rung of the UNLIMITED ladder last year.

We KNOW we're one of the Top Five premier contest clubs in the US ... Last year 9 other fine clubs "argued" that point in those two Thunder Weekends and left us looking up from the #10 spot in the ARRL DX. So ... Being one of the Top Five, it's an easy guess to say that if we come together like we've demonstrated in the past, our claim for the #5 spot on the UNLIMITED Club ladder is not unreasonable by any stretch of the imagination.

We're a demonstrated CW powerhouse, so not only a willingness from the CW Boys to "find a microphone" this weekend AND the help from the rest of us who don't particularly like the fury of 35WPM CW blowing their cranium crazy all weekend is what we NEED to say "HASTA LUEGO" to last years #10 rung on the UNLIMITED Club Competition ladder.

As an aside, last year, our own FCG member, Howard Roux, AA4RX, was in the #1 spot in the Top Ten US/VE Golden Log Box with his 100% accurate, 512 QSO SOABLP entry from Collier County's EL96 grid square! TallyMan is proud to award the "I got ur 3 Q deduction ... right here" woodie to Howard for an EXCEPTIONAL accomplishment in it's own right ! GO FCG !!

Claimed Scores ARRL CW DX Contest

Call	QSOs	MULTS	Score	Class	Sect	HRS	RATE/HR	OPERATOR(S)
J70J	7131	340	7,273,620	M/M	DX	48.0	149	K5KG, W4IX, K1XX
AA4HP	2836	440	3,742,200	M/2	NFL	48.0	59	AA4HP,AD4ES,K8NZ, K9ES
WJ9B	2047	301	1,847,538	SOABHP	NFL	40.0	51	
N4TB	1225	346	1,271,550	SOABHP	WCF	30.0	41	
N6AR	1083	353	1,146,897	SOABHP	NFL	35.0	31	
W4QM	1060	347	1,102,419	SOABHP	SFL	34.0	31	
N4GI	1254	228	856,368	SOABHP	WCF	19.9	63	
W7QF	622	259	483,294	SOABHP	NFL	18.9	33	
K4PB	594	239	425,898	SOABHP	SFL	23.0	26	
W4YA	516	217	335,916	SOABHP	NFL			
W4CEO	261	145	113,535	SOABHP	NFL	18.8	14	
W1MO	269	140	112,980	SOABHP	NFL	6.4	42	
CX7TT	243	91	66,339	SOABHP	DX	4.0	61	K6CT
K4LQ	127	89	33,909	SOABHP	WCF	2.5	51	
W4DKB	19	17	969	SOABHP	WCF			
N4CJ	1203	411	1,483,299	SOABHP (A)	WCF			G4BUE
K0LUZ	1409	317	1,338,057	SOABHP (A)	NFL	35.0	40	
N4WW	613	340	625,260	SOABHP (A)	NFL	14.5	42	
W4ZW	525	225	342,900	SOABHP (A)	WCF	12.0	44	
K9VV	140	74	31,920	SOABHP (A)	SFL	4.0	35	
C6AKQ	1766	60	312,405	SOHP40	DX		30	N4BP
C6AHR	742	59	131,334	SOHP160	DX			N8PR
W4FDA	246	86	62,730	SOHP40 (A)	NFL			
N4QV	95	54	15,390	SOHP160 (A)	SFL	6.0	16	
K1PT	1372	320	1,316,160	SOABLP	SFL			
K1TO	1251	345	1,294,785	SOABLP	WCF	23.0	54	
WK2G	1244	252	940,464	SOABLP	WCF	34.8	36	
W4AA	898	330	889,020	SOABLP	NFL	35.0	26	
K4GKD	515	231	357,744	SOABLP	WCF	12.0	43	
W3TB			324,105	SOABLP	WCF			
KU3O	256	134	102,108	SOABLP	WCF	13.0	20	
N4EK	200	116	69,600	SOABLP	NFL	8.1	25	
AJ2U	196	98	57,330	SOABLP	SFL	15.0	13	
N4EXA	173	80	41,280	SOABLP	WCF		5	T93M
NA4CW	106	75	23,850	SOABLP	SFL	2.8	38	
W4EBA	92	60	16,560	SOABLP	NFL	3.7	25	
NE4AA	23	22	1,518	SOABLP	WCF	2.5	9	K1TO
KE1F	631	218	446,748	SOABLP (A)	NFL	28.0	23	
C6APG	1184	58	206,016	SOLP80	DX	22.5	53	K4PG
K4CC	110	40	13,200	SOLP20	WCF	4.5	24	
VE3XD/W4	70	34	7,140	SOLP20	WCF	2.5	28	
WB4TDH	290	90	78,300	SOLP15	WCF	17.5	17	
C6AOV	467	55	77,055	SOLP15	DX	17.8	26	W4OV
FCG Totals			23,156,727					

FCG Panhandle Scores

NF4A	543	204	332,316	SOABLP	NFL-P	11.7	46
KN4Y	368	174	191,574	SOABLP	NFL-P	18.0	20
KD5M	84	44	10,956	SOABHP	NFL-P	5.0	17
K4JAF	30	25	2,250	SOHP160	NFL-P	2.0	15

Panhandle Totals **537,096**

Claimed Scores ARRL Phone DX Contest

Station	QSOs	MULTS	Score	Class	Section	OPERATOR(S)	HRS	Rate/HR
NP2B	4745	278	3,957,330	MULTI-ONE ALL HIGH	dx	K9VV, NP2B, W4OV, WD4R		
N6AR	531	268	426,924	SINGLE-OP ALL HIGH	NFL		16.0	33
NJ2F	490	231	339,570	SINGLE-OP ALL HIGH	SFL			
K5RQ	508	200	304,800	SINGLE-OP ALL HIGH	WCF		14.0	36
W7QF	408	197	240,537	SINGLE-OP ALL HIGH	NFL			
W4ZW	203	137	83,433	SINGLE-OP ALL HIGH	WCF		6.4	32
K4ADR	220	121	79,860	SINGLE-OP ALL HIGH	SFL		10.0	22
N4GI	174	104	53,040	SINGLE-OP ALL HIGH	WCF		4.0	44
W4CEO	147	99	43,659	SINGLE-OP ALL HIGH	NFL			
K4PB	161	85	41,055	SINGLE-OP ALL HIGH	SFL		7.0	23
WA4ASJ	109	67	21,909	SINGLE-OP ALL HIGH	SFL		8.7	13
K0LUZ	1113	321	1,071,819	SINGLE-OP-ASSISTED ALL HIGH	NFL		35.0	32
K1PT	774	349	810,378	SINGLE-OP-ASSISTED ALL HIGH	SFL		20.0	39
N4WW	519	308	479,556	SINGLE-OP-ASSISTED ALL HIGH	NFL			
W4IX	604	224	405,888	SINGLE-OP-ASSISTED ALL HIGH	SFL at K4MM		19.0	32
W4/M0BUE	507	258	392,418	SINGLE-OP-ASSISTED ALL HIGH	WCF			
K4LQ	479	261	375,057	SINGLE-OP-ASSISTED ALL HIGH	WCF		23.6	20
N4CC	335	183	183,915	SINGLE-OP-ASSISTED ALL HIGH	NFL		8.0	42
K1TO	606	226	410,868	SINGLE-OP ALL LOW	WCF		13.0	47
K9OM	400		261,600	SINGLE-OP ALL LOW	NFL			
K8NZ	250	138	103,500	SINGLE-OP ALL LOW	SFL			
W3TB			64,260	SINGLE-OP ALL LOW	WCF			
KU30	128	95	36,480	SINGLE-OP ALL LOW	WCF			
K4GKD	104	68	21,216	SINGLE-OP ALL LOW	WCF		3.0	35
CX7TT	113	46	15,594	SINGLE-OP ALL LOW	DX K6CT		4.0	28
W4EBA	68	55	11,220	SINGLE-OP ALL LOW	NFL		3.0	23
AJ2U	25	22	1,650	SINGLE-OP ALL LOW	SFL		2.0	13
WA4EEZ	13	13	507	SINGLE-OP ALL LOW	WCF		0.5	26
KA0GGI	188	122	68,808	SINGLE-OP-ASSISTED ALL LOW	WCF KA0GGI/m		19.0	10
AA4HP				SINGLE-OP ALL HIGH	SFL P/T			
N4EK	83	49	12,201	SINGLE-OP 20M QRP	NFL		2.5	33
K1HG	35	25	2,625	SINGLE-OP 20M LOW	NFL			
K4DDR	8	6	144	SINGLE-OP 20M LOW	NFL		0.2	40
KT4KW	5	4	60	SINGLE-OP 20M LOW	NFL			
KG4WW	2669	60	480,420	SINGLE-OP 20M HIGH	DX KX4WW			
NA4CW	401	93	111,879	SINGLE-OP 15M HIGH	SFL		17.6	23
W4DKB			969		WCF		2.3	

FCG TOTALS **10,914,180**

FCG PANHANDLE SCORES

KD5M	141	72	30,456	SINGLE-OP ALL HIGH	NFL-P		4.5	30
NF4A	422	187	236,742	SINGLE-OP-ASSISTED ALL HIGH	NFL-P		10.1	42
K4JAF	255	159	121,635	SINGLE-OP ALL LOW	NFL-P		5.0	51
KB4ET	144	88	37,752	SINGLE-OP ALL LOW	NFL-P		5.0	29

PANHANDLE TOTALS **426,585**

ARRL DX: Post-Contest Reflections from the Tallyman (ex—KA0GGI, Now K4EJ)

The “wonder” and “thunder” for the two contest weekends for the ARRL DX “twins” are now a memory. As “radio people” we understand what we do and why we do it ... our hobby is so special, so “out there”, so personally rewarding ... even with his “long in the tooth” wisdom, your neighbor will never REALLY understand what we do or why we do it. It’s like the 2006 Daytona Bike Week Blake (N4GI) and I just attended ... you have to “be there” to understand. As Contesters, we ARE there ... and as a Club, the Contesting Community understands who we are, what our mutant Bufonidae-like President has accomplished and what three ARRL sections comprise our peninsular paradise. So the personal memories of that first Field Day, the adrenalin-rush of working that “new one” through the hugest pileup you ever heard, or that great contest weekend become intrinsic treasures, and the weekends’ results become a historical notch in recorded contesting history. Now that’s a Tallyman thing ... a post-contest reckoning with the scores. But what IS a TallyMan, anyway? Certainly my neighbors wouldn’t understand, and since taking on the task for the 2005 FCG Contest Season, I’m learning the definition as the Season progresses, because at the onset, I didn’t understand either. By definition, your TallyMan may merely be a brief, circumstantial, enumerating spreadsheet maker who keeps a stick on which notches are formally scribed to keep a record of scores pending or submitted. Couple that with the constraints of rules, categories and regulations, your TallyMan offers up the following Tip of Wisdom:

“Not everything that can be counted counts ... and not everything that counts can be counted.”

That’s pretty heavy, rogers? So is the TallyMan job if you really get into it ... and so is the FCG ... if you REALLY get into it.

Charlie, NF4A, our SE Division Contest Advisory Committee “(CAC)” Representative will have some tasty morsels to bring to the table at that groups’ next gathering.

A look back at past FCG success in the ARRL DX reveals scores and participation (logs):

- YEAR – 2005 ... Unlimited Category – FCG #8 Florida Contest Group 17,627,373 (56) - average 314,775
- YEAR – 2004 ... Unlimited Category – FCG #7 Florida Contest Group 32,880,186 (63) - average 521,908
- YEAR – 2003 ... Unlimited Category – FCG #5 Florida Contest Group 45,532,599 (73) - average 623,734
- YEAR – 2002 ... Medium Category – FCG #2 Florida Contest Group 43,978,458 (38) - average 1,157,328

A few more scores are still coming in for the ARRL DX “twins” and I just learned that the J7OJ CW score will be 2.8M points higher than I believed, but a synoptic snapshot of



- we show an INCREASE of 106% in SCORE in 2006 over last year

Indeed a superb FCG rally and demonstration of the “Spirit of OJ” !

Throughout the summary process, it dawns on me that only about 25% of the Florida Contest Group is actually “contesting” ... if that number is low, you have to send me a score and take your best shot at that Cabrillo-encrusted, blue-collar automated, robotic, gate-keeping arbitrary slave standing sentinel over the LOGS RECEIVED PAGE. Doc, N4WW, sent me a note calling it the “Demon of Rejection” ... however, facts is facts ... “no tickee – no laundry” ... As solicited, several from the Fold did indicate acceptable EXCUSES for not coming to the “twins” party:

- I may not be able to put in any time this weekend. I am now working out of town, and need to care for some items on the home front when I get home late tonight...xyl, dog, cat, taxes, etc. You get the picture.
- My voice sounds funny on the radio.
- Wife was not feeling good and my yelling into the mic didn't help.
- My jet lag from flight on Feb 28 took out any energy to activate for ARRL SSB.
- Too nice a weekend to screw around on the radio.
- I made a few mobile contacts in the contest, but nothing logged.
- My cat ate my mike.
- The dog ate my microphone. Honest!
- It's a sideband contest. Pretty self-explanatory.
- Not sure any more what mic I wired my Elecraft K2 for.
- I think I will retire from fone contests, forever!
- My wife is a CW operator only, just like myself. She is not a contester so you will not see a score for either of us for a SSB contest. We do not own a mic that will connect to either the Omni VI+ or the Icom 756 rigs that we use.
- Some things are more important in life than SSB contests.
- I called Icom and was told there was a mike in a white cardboard container that came with my radio. I have a bunch of these white containers in the junk drawer. I looked and sure enough there was a box that had the model number of my radio in bold letters. I got the mike out and the instruction booklet and got it connected. I whistled a few times and the meter moved. So I was ready to try SSB. Last night I was at the bowling alley bowling and had a high game. One of the young girls came over to congratulate me and gave me a big kiss. I got so excited my jaws cramped, sorta like lock jaw. I went to the doctor this morning and he said I would not be able to talk for long periods of time for two to three weeks and put me on a beer diet. I had good intentions, but alas I was dip-lipped by caressing. So no ARRL DX SSB, Doctors orders.
(continued next page)

As a wrap, a few items that didn't qualify for the rigor of a Tally Sheet, but definitely worth an honorable mention:

- WJ9B in the ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes reports "first time in a vhf contest. 23 of the contacts were on CW, and there is more CW up here than I thought. These guys no, I mean, know code if they need a new Grid! Let's hear it for weak signals!" Will also did a stint in the CW Sprint with a 237x39 result! dit dit, Will;
- Bill (K4XS) with a 332x48 SSB Sprint result;
- Ed(KN4Y) and John (W4IX), working the State QSO Party's;
- Cary(K4CC) and Larry (N6AR)working the NAQP and CQ WPX RTTY contests, respectively, along with Ron (KP2N) rallying the SPARC club station (W4GAC) for a M/S effort in the NAQP RTTY;
- John (K4WJ) for 'making me' change my call from KA0GGI to K4EJ!

WHO ELSE?
- K4EJ -

On the premise that a picture is worth a thousand words.....



So you think the hurricanes were bad at your QTH??? Joe W4IR is using this mailbox as his excuse for some recent puny scores!

SS CW 2005 Final Scores

Call	Score	QSOs	Sect	Class	HRS	Section	Operator(s)
K1PT	147,040	919	80	SOABLP	21.0	SFL	
K4LQ	43,450	275	79	SOABHP	1.8	WCF	
K4XS	40,560	312	65	SOABHP	3.9	WCF	
K9OM	72,838	461	79	SOABHP (U)	8.0	NFL	
K9VV	9,360	104	45	SOABHP	1.7	SFL	at K4FAU
KA0GGI	49,956	362	69	SOABHP	6.0	WCF	at K4XS
N4AO	46,434	327	71	SOABHP	6.0	WCF	WC4E
N4GI	162,240	1014	80	SOABLP	24.0	WCF	
N4TB	99,216	636	78	SOABLP	18.0	WCF	
W4ARM	55,860	399	80	SOABLP	12.5	SFL	
W4GAC	54,824	356	77	M/S	20.0	WCF	AA1IK AI4IE KP2N KU4R N4RI
W4SAA	54,750	375	73	SOABLP		SFL	
W7QF	45,600	300	76	SOABHP	12.5	NFL	
WD4AHZ	95,360	596	80	SOABLP	19.0	WCF	
WJ9B	164,320	1027	80	SOABHP	24.0	NFL	
TOTAL	1,141,808	7463	1112		178.4		
AVG	67,165	466	70		11.1		
FCG Panhandle							
NF4A	22,082	181	61	SOABLP	2.4	NFL	
K4PV	148,362	939	79	SOABHP	24.0	NFL	
TOTAL	170,444	1,120	140		26		
DX							
NP2B	152,628	966	79	S/O LP	24.0	VI	N4BP

Pictures from the NP2B ARRL DX Phone Contest Operation

Ed. Note: Thanks to John NP2B and Jeannette NP2C for hosting the Dxpedition and to Julio WD4R for the pictures.



The NP2B Contest Team



*The NP2B Antenna Farm
KT-34 Triband Beam, Log Periodic Beam, 2 Element
40 Meter Beam, Dipoles for 80 and 40 Meters*



*The Main Operating Position at NP2B
Bruce W4OV at Left, Fred K9VV at Right*



*3/4 of the team operating, Julio is taking the picture.
L-R Fred K9VV, Bruce W4OV and John NP2B*



John using the "Elvis" microphone



**Fred _ Hola Contesto!
We take points in any language. Mon!**



Bruce—CQ CQ Europe or any third world country...



**Post contest celebration with friends and competitors.
L-R Brian KP2HC, John NP2B, Tony N2TK, Fred K9VV,
Lou KV4HC, Jeannette NP2C, Ann KP2YL (Tony's wife
behind Bruce), Bruce W4OV, Julio WD4R**



The team takes to the water!

Summary			
160	0	5	0
80	148	35	4
40	611	59	10
20	813	56	20
15	1109	59	8
10	2022	59	68
10	42	10	0
ALL	4745	278	110
ARRL Score:	3,957,330		
Running Station			
QSO's per Mult:	17.1		
Current Op:	NP2B		

**The Final Score!
Can you say "NP2B 59 Kilowatt" 4745 Times**



**Valentine - Boy, I'm glad that's over...what a racket!
And they complain about my barking...Hah!...I mean
Woof! Finally I can have my bed back. Next time you
guys better show up with a bone. Adios Amigos!**

**Pictures from the J70J ARRL
CW DX Contest Operation**



*Back row, left to right - WI9WI, K1XX,
KK9K
front row, left to right - K5KG, Donford
"Mr. Yagi", W4IX*

Foreground, L-R W4IX K1XX



L-R, W4IX, K1XX, KK9K



Wilma Repairs at K1PT

Today I had a crane and tower crew here to (finally) fix the Wilma damage.



As I told my wife the good news is it's done and it cost less than a week's pay. The bad news is that it was damn close! We had thunderstorms come through right after the damaged antennas were on the ground. Had to wait four hours before starting to repair them and get them back up. Crane time costs the same whether they're working or standing by. I cooked brats and beans for the crew during the delay and the crane operator took two hours off the bill! Next time I'll do breakfast and dinner and get the crane for free! 73 and see you in the pile-ups,

Paul K1PT

FCG takes 3rd Place in California QSO Party

The following note was received from Marc W6ZZZ:

To: Non CA Clubs

Thank you for entering the 2005 California QSO Party as a club!

CCO again took the top spot for non-CA competition. Just barely. SECC came in with 12 logs versus 26 logs, with ONLY 26K points less. A few more logs submitted, and SECC might have the Plaque to show off on their web page."

- 13 clubs had entries
 Contest Club Ontario
 South East Contest Club
 Florida Contest Group
 Society of Midwest Contesters
 Yankee Clipper Contest Club
 Tennessee Contest Group
 Frankfort Radio Club
 Mad River Radio Club
 Western Washington DX Club
 PVRC
 Grand Mesa Contesters
 MN Wireless Association
 Willamette Valley DX Club



Removing bent mast and folded up XM-240



Repaired antennas being craned for insertion



Coming down !

K9ES Relocates - Prepares to construct new antenna farm

By Eric Smitt K9ES

My new QTH is at .. 2175 Ohio St. W. Melbourne FL It is off the island, near the intersection of I-95 and US192. Has 1.75 acres. Will put up the following:



Tower 1 - Rohn 55G
Force 12 Magnum 620340 @ 144 feet
Force 12 EF340 @ 77 feet (on TIC Rotor)
40 meter beams with Stack Match

Tower 2 - Rohn 55G
Force 12 C31XR (3 feeds) @ 125 feet
Force 12 C31XR (3 feeds) @ 80 feet
3 - Stack Matches (for 10/15/20)
3 el 20M Monobander fixed Caribbean @ 36 feet
3 el 15M Monobander fixed Caribbean @ 32 feet
3 el 10M Monobander fixed Caribbean @ 28 feet
Shunt feed this tower for 160M

Tower 3
Mosely Pro-67C3 @ 55 feet
Hygain 14 el 2M Yagi (Horizontal Polarized) @ 60 feet
Hygain 4 el 6M Yagi @ 66 feet

Rope between top of 120 and 140 holding pair of Delta Loops for 80M 1, NE, 1 SW (2 driven elements, 1 reflector)

Gap Voyager Verticals in 4-Square using COMTEK box, set for 80M-75M operation, but useful for RX on 160 and TX, RX on 40 & 20M

Gap Challenger

Multiple 80 / 75M slopers as possible. See note at right.



Here are pictures after the unload. 340 feet of Rohn 55G with plenty of accessories



Anyway, might be up by Melbourne Hamfest, and plan to have group join us for cook-out meeting and swimming, if they want. This will be in October



Phone Contest Troubleshooting Guide

From ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet
8 March 2006 - By Ward Silver N0AX



SYMPTOM

- CAUSE
- CORRECTIVE ACTION

Band unusually quiet, can't see rig

- You have headphones on sideways
- Remove boom mike from your ear and rotate headphones ninety degrees

Opposite wall covered with fluorescent lights

- You have fallen over backward
- Have yourself duct taped to operating desk

Mouth contains peanuts, back of head covered with peanut shells

- You have fallen forward
- Have yourself duct taped to operating chair

Coffee tasteless, front of your shirt is wet

- a. - Mouth not open
- Unlikely since this is a phone contest
- b. - Cup applied to wrong part of face
- Take a restroom break, practice in mirror

Your transmit audio is garbled and indistinct

- Boom mike immersed in your coffee cup
- Hide headset and swipe the one from the dead band's radio

Rhythmic crackling QRM wiping out the entire band

- You are eating potato chips
- Suck on them instead

Sharp pain in one arm

- Multiplier operator is trying to get you to stand by
- Talk faster and stomp on footswitch

Sharp pain in one foot

- You and the multiplier operator are both trying to use the same footswitch
- Kick wildly in all directions and run him off!

Rig Blurred

- Relief operator is trying to get you out of the chair
- Yell, "I'm running Europe!" and grab onto chair arms

Floor moving

- You are being carried away
- Find out if you are being taken to a different operating chair

Room seems unusually dark

- a. - You are asleep under the operating desk

- Stand up without hitting your head and reclaim operating chair

- b. - You are asleep with old QST over your face
- Act like you were just reading without your glasses

Radio suddenly takes on colorful aspect and textures

- You are asleep in the M&M's dish
- Eat M&Ms

Bottom cold and clammy

- You forgot to put on pants after last sleep break
- Reinstall pants without losing run frequency

Bottom warm and clammy

- Improper bladder control
- Complain about previous operator's lack of shack etiquette

Other operators are looking at you and smiling

- You fell asleep and empty soda cans are now stacked on your head
- Don't swallow or move!

Heavy weight pressing on one side

- Mult operator fell asleep and is leaning on you
- Stack soda cans on his head

Station you're working is using unfamiliar procedures

- You are operating on MARS net outside of band
- Remove one letter from the prefix and log it!

Caller has the best audio you've ever heard

- You are attempting to work shortwave broadcast station news program
- Add a number somewhere in the call sign and log it!

Callers only send one letter at a time

- You are attempting to make a QSO with intermodulation products
- Accumulate enough characters and log it!

Ears ringing, mind unusually clear, station owner yelling

- You just blew up the amplifier
- Point at the youngest operator and keep operating barefoot

Hiram Percy Maxim tries to correct the call sign you just entered

- Personal sleep deprivation limitation exceeded
- Enter random call from Super Check Partial and drink a Mountain Dew

Don't recognize anyone or the room you're in

- You showed up at the wrong station
- See if they have an available operating position.

Charlie NF4A Selected National Engineer of the Year by his employer Clear Channel Communications

We will all remember 2005 as the year of three devastating hurricanes. Charlie Wooten, our Director of Engineering in Panama City, Florida, played a major role in keeping our Florida panhandle and southern Mississippi radio stations on the air, and leading the recovery effort, through all of them. Sometimes Charlie was drawn into the fray simply because his stations were in a storm's path. But at other times, when it was clear that his own market would be spared the worst of the storm, Charlie headed INTO THE STORMS to help our stations stay on the air, and to make repairs and construct makeshift facilities as needed to continue to provide vital service to the communities we serve. Many of our other engineers have done the same; however Charlie stands out, not only because of his eagerness to volunteer and head into the most devastated areas, sleeping on transmitter and studio floors, and working unbelievable hours, but because he has already been honored twice by Clear Channel Radio as "Small Market Engineer of the Year" for doing the very same thing for two years running! Clearly Charlie is more than a "Regional" or "Small Market" Engineer of the Year -- he exemplifies the very best in the radio engineering craft: technical expertise, calm and leadership during a crisis, inventiveness and field expediency, and a positive "can do" attitude. Clear Channel Radio is fortunate to have Charlie Wooten as part of our great engineering team and it is an honor to be able to recognize Charlie for his contributions.

Steve Davis

Senior Vice President, Engineering
Clear Channel Radio
SteveDavis@Clearchannel.com

Ed Note: Congrats Charlie from all of us in FCG!

K4LQ 6 Meter Antenna Rehab



*Post Hurricane Jeanne
5 elements on a 12 ft Boom - In the Woods*



*After rebuilding
Cushcraft 617-6B
6 Meter Boomer
6 elements on a 34 Ft
Boom*

Florida Contest Group

Dan Street, K1TO, President
9993 289th Street East
Myakka City, FL 34251
k1to@aol.com

George Wagner
V.P. Operations
5113 Higel Avenue
Sarasota FL 34242
Georgek5kg@aol.com

Ron Wetjen, WD4AHZ
V.P. Florida QSO Party
5362 Castleman Drive
Sarasota, FL 34232
wd4ahz@arrl.net

Fred Perkins, K4LQ
Secretary/Treasurer
Newsletter Editor
3437 Lake Josephine Drive
Lake Placid FL 33852