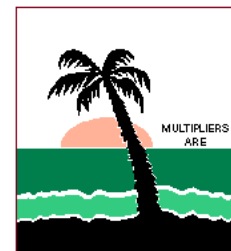




Contest Gazette

Florida Contest Group

www.floridacontestgroup.org



Volume 21 Issue 1

April 2014

From the President's Corner

By Dan Street, K1TO

Thanks to VP Chris, WF3C for "penning" most of this lead. 2014 has already been a remarkable year for the FCG, with February and March packing in a lot of activity.



Reviews for our Orlando Contest Dinner at the new venue with a new caterer, and interesting guest speaker Doug, K1DG were very positive. We had a large number of prizes for our raffle, including the grand prize courtesy of Yaesu -- a brand new FTDX-1200 transceiver. We were pleased to present the grand prize to Scott W4PA, owner of Vibroplex, who promises that he will make plenty of QSOs with FCGers using the new radio as PJ4Q, where he operates CQ WW CW each year.

On Saturday of the Orlando weekend we had our traditional FCG meeting at the Golden Corral. Attendance was excellent as usual and all attending enjoyed a hearty meal and sharing their plans for the upcoming contest season, as well as the distribution of FQP awards. See page 9 for a full review.

The weekend following the Orlando hamfest was ARRL DX CW, with a number of FCG members placing highly. The top two DX M/S scores featured FCG members behind the key; KP2M finished in first place led by "Island" Fred K9VV, plus KT3Y and WP2XX, with PJ4X operated by Marty W1MD and PJ4LS close behind. Finally, the USA/VE #1 M/2 team at K8AZ featured FCG member K8NZ on the op list.

Immediately following ARRL DX CW, Florida hosted W1AW/4 for a week. Thanks to N8PR and the SFDXA for organizing the effort, and to K0LUZ, WB4OMM and W4UH for heading up CW, Phone, and RTTY mode scheduling respectively. MVP (MVO?) award goes to K1TO for making >10,000 QSOs by himself in just over 100 hours of operating. W1AW/4 made over 54,000 QSOs (including dupes) on all HF bands except 60m, plus VHF and EME. The FCG hosts W1AW/4 in November, so stay tuned for further opportunities to host W1AW at your QTH then.

ARRL SSB featured super conditions; perhaps the last of the great conditions of this sunspot peak. K1TO made almost half his 4000 QSOs on 10m and rode the great conditions to a USA win in SOABHP. K4XS lapped the competition in SOAB Assisted HP as well. Charlie K1XX operated low power at VP2MLL and narrowly edged out perennial favorite VP9/W6PH for top world.

K1TO adds:

I was also privileged to be invited to speak at the Miami Hamboree. Our friends at the SFDXA hosted the DX Forum, at which I presented a slide show review of the A71BX operation back in October, as well as a preview of WRTC-2014.

As Chris mentioned, conditions have been tremendous for the most part. Our week as W1AW/4 was marred by some serious CMEs that seriously compromised the bands, but we still collectively provided more W1AW/x QSOs than any other state at that point. Thanks again to Pete for his organization of the ops, much of it on the fly as the week unfolded.

Operating as W1AW/4 was a unique experience. It was certainly *not* a contest, as witnessed by the operating habits, particularly on SSB. I noted a preponderance of sub-optimal operating practices as the prevalence of "73s" over the correct "73", usage of VHF terms such as "KD8xxx clear" and even the fundamental misunderstanding of how to send a signal report back to me.

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OTOH, I particularly enjoyed working our friends in Japan, who have really embraced the W1AW/x operations. It was the closest thing to being on a DX-pedition, having to run split on CW to spread out the numerous JAs calling in. And I could hear the excitement in the voices of the weaker JAs when they made it into the log on SSB. Subsequent W1AW/x operations have seen a steady incline in activity, so our week in November has the potential to be phenomenal.

Note that FCger Dave N2NL easily eclipsed my personal W1AW totals with something like 13,000 QSOs during their recent W1AW/KH2 week, capping an amazing 4 years of operation from Guam that included 9BWAZ with a small station!

CQ WPX SSB conditions at the end of March were by all accounts spectacular, with the bands wider open than perhaps at any other time during this double-hump sunspot cycle.

This year's Florida QSO Party is rapidly approaching, and based upon the 27-day cycle, we should benefit from those same fantastic conditions. I apologize for my inability to get the 2013 results write-up completed yet (and thanks to Charlie, K1XX for his assistance), so thanks to all of you for your patience. This is a particularly challenging year for me with more irons in the fire than usual.

WRTC-2014 is less than 3 months away as I write this and the wheels are in motion on many different fronts to make it as successful as practical. I hope that many of you can either come to Massachusetts in July to support our FCG ops AD4Z, W4UH, K9VV and N2NL, or to get on the air that weekend and work as many of the WRTC ops as you can.

Vy 73, Dan K1TO

A note from ARRL Contest Update on March 26 -

There is lots of new material on the ARRL [Contest Results web page](#)! Finally catching up on the 2013 IARU HF Championship, the Log Checking Reports (LCRs), the searchable Results Database, and the Printable Line Scores are all available now. The database and line scores are also available for the 10 GHz Cumulative Contest, too. And moving right along, the full writeup for the 2013 ARRL CW Sweepstakes by Kelly VE4XT is now online, as well! The database, line scores, and LCRs will be posted very soon. (Thanks, ARRL Public Relations Manager, Sean KX9X)

Contributors to This Issue

K1TO, WF3C, N4BP, VO1MP, K5KG, N4GI, K4LQ, KQ8Z, W4OV, The ARRL Contest Update Newsletter

Welcome Aboard



W4EAF - Nick Adams, 1305 Shady Rest Road, Havana FL 32333 e-mail: w4eaf@bellsouth.net

K4LO - Phillip N. Wilson, 4538 Tamarind Drive, Pace FL 32571-2850 e-mail: k4lo@mchsi.com

N4OQP - Mike Mannix, 4534 Van Buren St., Hollywood FL 22021 e-mail: Scoutmeii@yahoo.com

W4LWZ - Lawrence W. Zimmer, 1719 NW 21st Street, Cape Coral FL 33993 e-mail: lwzimmer@gmail.com

W2OR - Mark Murray, Box 840276, Saint Augustine FL 32080-0276 e-mail: MarkMu.Boeing737@yahoo.com

K7BV - Dennis Motschenbacher, 290 West Road, Turkey NC 20393 e-mail: k7bv@aol.com

W6XD - Art Goddard, 2001 Palau Place, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 e-mail:

K2PS - Pete Stafford, 674 Leeds Pl, The Villages, FL 32162 E-mail: psk2ps@gmail.com

AF4RK - John Dalnes, 13920 NE 4th Avenue, North Miami FL 33161 e-mail: jdalnes@hotmail.com

WC3W - Mark Wohlschlegel, 152 Glencullen Circle, Jupiter FL 33458 e-mail: mvwohlschlegel@gmail.com

Events Calendar

Florida QSO Party 1600Z Apr 26 to 0159Z Apr 27
1200Z to 2159Z Apr 27

New England QSO Party 2000Z May 3 to 2400Z May 4

CQ WW WPX Contest, CW 0000Z May 24 to 2400Z May 25

ARRL June VHF Contest 1800Z Jun 14 to 0300Z Jun 16

All Asian DX Contest, CW 000Z Jun 21 to 2400Z Jun 22

ARRL Field Day 1800Z Jun 28 to 1200Z Jun 29

IARU World Championship 1200Z July 12 to 1200Z July 13. The IARU Contest this year is also WRTC-2014

CQ WW VHF Contest 1800Z July 19 to 2100Z July 20

Orlando Hamcation Meeting Report February 2014

Below are the 110 members spotted at Orlando:

AB4GO, AD4ES, AD4Z, AF4Z, K0LUZ, K1KNQ, K1PT, K1RQ, K1TO, K1XX, K2DM, K2EUH, K3TW, K3USC, K3VN, K4AC, K4CC, K4IMB, K4LM, K4LO (new mbr), K4LQ, K4LRP, K4MM, K4QD, K4RX, K4XS, K5KG, K7JA, K8DSS, K9ES, K9VV, KC4HW, KD4BRJ, KE1F, KF4WZH, KJ4LQX, KL7MF, KM4HI, KP2N, KQ8Z, KR4U, KT4LST, KT4Q, N0TW, N2ESP, N3ND, N4BP, N4CR, N4DXI, N4EK, N4FP, N4GG, N4GI, N4KM, N4LZ, N4NSS, N4OQP (new mbr), N4PJ, N4TB, N4UU, N4WO, N4WW, N6AR, N6KW, N8PR, NG4L, NN4X, NP2MR, NT4TS, NX4N, VO1MP, W1MD, W1RG, W1YL, W2OR, W2TX, W3AZD, W3WW, W4AS, W4DAS, W4DN, W4GJ, W4GV, W4KPG, W4LIS, W4LT, W4LWZ, W4QG, W4SLR, W4TSP, W4UM, W4UH, W4UM, W9KB, WA4AW, WA4EEZ, WA4OAB, WA5POK, WA6POZ, WA8QYJ, WB2VYK, WB3ANE, WB4OMM, WB4TDH, WC4E, WF3C, WH7YL, WO4D, WW4E.

Highlights from the Friday evening dinner:

As most already knew, the capacity of 100 had been reached nearly one month in advance of the dinner. Many potential attendees had to be turned away due to the Fire Code restrictions of the room, but this should be alleviated next year by the expansion to a larger room that seats up to 175.

FT5ZM-magnitude pileups were encountered in processing incoming ticket purchasers. This will be improved upon next year by having tickets written by the attendees themselves several at a time in an expanded space, as is commonly done at hamfests.

Doug, K1DG was this year's banquet speaker and focused his talk on WRTC-2014 of which he is the Chairman. Doug gave a very informative talk covering many aspects of WRTC history, planning and progress to date.

Over \$8000 in prizes were donated for the raffle. 55 raffle tickets were sold in addition to the dinner tickets themselves which also doubled as a raffle ticket.

The Grand Prize of a Yaesu FTDX-1200 was won by Scott Robbins W4PA (himself a large donor of Vibroplex discount coupons).

FCG President Dan K1TO opened the Saturday luncheon meeting at the Golden Corral by welcoming a packed house. Dan asked for attendees to introduce themselves and tell the group what their plans were for upcoming contests. Not surprisingly, the FQP led the list of events that attendees plan to operate

Next upcoming activities are the ARRL DX CW Contest February 15-16, and the FCG is partnering with the South Florida DX Association to support the ARRL Centennial QSO Party as W1AW/4 February 19-25. Pete N8PR is coordinating this effort on behalf of the SFDXA and thanked FCGers who signed on to fill the open time slots. The FCG will be the lead Florida club in a similar effort in November. Dan introduced Doug K1DG who noted that \$2814 had been

raised toward WRTC at the dinner and thanked the FCG for their contributions. He also laid out the proposal from Alfa-Spid who will accept 50% on a rotator with the proceeds going to WRTC-2014. Further details have since been posted on the e-mail reflector.

Dan noted that this week was the tenth anniversary of the death of the FCG's founder Jim White K4OJ. Dan also noted the recent passing of members Kevin Bunin K4PG and Arnie Trossman W4EIP. A moment of silence was observed in honor of these Silent Keys.

George K5KG was presented with a plaque for posting the top Canadian score in the 2012 ARRL SS CW. George operated as a guest at the QTH of Gus VO1MP during this operation, using the call VO1XX, and Gus was present at the luncheon to present the plaque. Highlights of George's trip were documented in the December 2012 issue of the Gazette.

The remainder of the meeting was taken up by the awarding of Plaques and Certificates for the 2013 Florida QSO Party. The large attendance at the meeting facilitated personal delivery of many awards. Bob N4BP assumed the role of photographer for these awards, an activity so ably performed for a number of years by Kevin K4PG (SK). Our thanks to Bob for his efforts. These will be documented in an upcoming edition of the Gazette.

George K5KG noted that he has been appointed as the Contest Advisory Council member for the Southeastern Division under new Director Doug K4AC. George encouraged ARRL members to pass along their suggestions for improving any ARRL contest.

Dan closed the meeting by passing along the news that the rumored serious illness of member John Ellis NP2B turned out to be a medication reaction and that John was recovering well.

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

While there was not time for the Secretary/Treasurer's report at the luncheon, here are the key highlights:

FCG membership stands at 288. The figures as reported at the Orlando meeting over the past several years appear to have stabilized in the 280-290 range. Our membership drops every dues collection season, but recovers over the course of the year.

Treasury totals after the dinner expenses were deducted and dinner/raffle ticket sales and dues payments were added came to \$3017.92.

Thanks to the members who contributed pictures for the Gazette from the Orlando festivities. It appears that activities there will be well documented.

73/Fred K4LQ

Orlando Dinner Pictures—2014



Fred K4LQ and Chris WF3C ticketing attendees at the door.



George K5KG addresses the group to introduce Art, W6XD

Art W6XD gave a preview of his presentation to be given at a forum the next day on the future of ham radio



Chow Line



Dinner In Progress



Dan K1TO opens the program.



L-R Scott W4PA. Winner of the Yaesu FT-1200 Lottery Grand Prize. With Denny K7BV of Yaesu.



Featured Speaker Doug K1DG, Chairman of WRTC-2014



Left - A happy Scott W4PA with his new Yaesu FT-1200, (still in the box).



More Dinner Guests



L-R Art W6XD and Denny K7BV showing off their new FCG Shirts. Both were invited by George K5KG to become FCG members. Welcome aboard!



*L-R
Jeff WC4E
Blake N4GI*

*L-R
George KQ8Z,
Chris WF3C*



*L-R
Fran K4FPZ
Larry W4LWZ*



*L-R
Charlie K1XX
Marty W1MD*



*Our Wyoming visitors
L-R
Katie WY7KRA
Dwayne WY7FD*

*L-R
Pat KF4WZH
Martin N4UU*



Below - Ellen W1YL speaks to the group.



*L-R
Dan W4UH
Bob K2EUH*

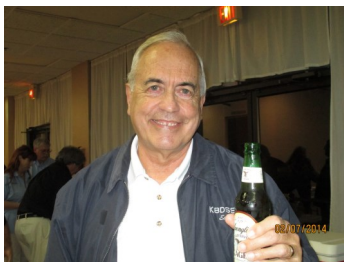




Above - Lou KE1F



Above - Bill NG4L



Above - Ed K8DSS



Above - Jim K8MR



Above - John W2TX



*Left - Mo N4LZ
and XYL Shirley*

*L-R
Ellen W1YL
Steve WB4OMM*



*L-R
Linda N1ZYC
Paul N1ZYB*

*L-R
Gary WB4DNL
Emmett KD4OS*



*L-R
Pat N4RAT
Bob WA4OAB*



L-R Doug K1DG, Art W6XD



*Above -
Bill W4WV*



*Above -
Gerry WA6POZ*

First Award Pictures From Saturday FCG Meeting



Walt W4GV



Bill NG4L



L-R Gus VO1MP presents George K5KG with a plaque for Top Canadian Score in the 2012 SS CW. George made this score while a guest at the VO1MP QTH.

Pictures from the Saturday Luncheon at Golden Corral Thanks to Bob N4BP



*L-R
Jeff WC4E
Ellen W1YL*



*L-R
Bill K4XS
Terry N4TB*



*L-R
Jack K1KNQ*

Pete N8PR

*Pete is holding the
W1AW/4 schedule
Chart.*



*L-R
Tim N4UM
George KQ8Z
Phil K4LO*



L-R
Vant K4LM
Greg N4WO



L-R
Trish KD4BRJ
Martin N4UU
John K4LRP

L-R
Dan W4UH
Bob K2EUH



L-R
Bob WA8QYJ
Pat KF4ZWH



L-R
Lou KE1F
Bill NG4L



L-R
Chuck AD4ES
Doug K4IMB

R-L
Dana K1RQ and XYL



Right - Pat N4RAT



L-R
Wayne N4FP
Marcia
WB2VYK



L-R
Jack K1KNQ
Julio AD4Z
HI3EPR

Ed Note: In some cases the sponsor of the award is shown also.

Pictures of the FQP 2013 Awards

Many thanks to Bob N4BP for taking these pictures.



Lu W4LT



Fred K4LQ



Bill K4XS



Alan KV4QS



Terry N4TB



Jeff WC4E



Chris NX4N



HI3A accepts plaque for HI8A



George K5KG



Jack K1KNQ



Kevin N4KM



Bob WA4OAB



Wayne N4FP, Marcia WB2VYK



Chris WF3C for N4GI



Julio AD4Z



Steve KT4Q



Dan K1TO



Vant K4LM



Phil K4LO



John K4LRP



Lou KE1F



Ed N4EK



N4TP - Tampa ARC



Greg N4WO

ARRL DX CW CLAIMED SCORES

FLORIDA STATIONS:

Call	Score	QSOs	Mlt	Class	Sec	Ops	HRs
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
AC2N	16,443	87 ?		SOABQRP	NFL		
AD4ES	549,120			MSHP	SFL		
K0LUZ	499,347	1473	113	SB15HP	NFL @N4WW		
K1KNQ	847,044	828	341	SOABLPu	NFL	20	
K1PT	534,576	1036	172	SB10m	SFL	18	
K1TO	2,813,130	2718	345	SOABHP	WCF	22	
K2DM	425,790	570	249	SOABLP	NFL	15	
K3TW	118,686			SOABQRP	NFL		
K4CC	20,520	120	57	SB80m	WCF		
K4LM	1,226,916	1038	394	SOABHPu	SFL	21	
K4LO	87,720	430	68	SOABHP	NFL		
K4LQ	1,433,502	1302	367	SOABHPu	WCF	29	
K4LRP	55,125	245	75	SOABLPu	SFL		
K4MM	31,500	156	75	SOABHPu	SFL		
K4MF	1,047,759	1123	311	SOABHP	SFL		
K4XS	747,360	2076	120	SB20HP	NFL	42	
K5AUP	685,842	757	302	SOABHP	NFL	16.6	
K5KG	3,528,588	2471	476	SOABHPu	WCF	37.5	
K9IA	229,146	422	181	SOABHPu	NFL		
K9OM	2,712,150	1845	490	SOABLPu	NFL	30	
KE1F	25,308	111	76	SOABHPu	NFL		
KK4DZP	1,440			SB80m	NFL		
KM4HI	97,188	356	91	SOABHPu	NFL	14	
KN4Y	50,250	250	67	SB10m	NFL	18	
KV4QS	203,373	383	177	SOABLP	SFL	10.6	
N1TO	708,297	1031	229	SOABHP	SFL	15	
N3GD	475,956	678	234	SOABLP	WCF		
N4AO	228,000	400	190	SOABLP	WCF WC4E		
N4CR	117,114	262	149	SOABHP	NFL	18	
N4DXI	106,596	252	141	SOABHPu	NFL		
N4EK	264,810	455	194	SOABLP	NFL		
N4FP	64,746	198	109	SOABHP	NFL	6.7	
N4LF	150,732	316	159	SOABLPu	SFL	4.5	
N4LZ	66,381	203	109	SOABHP	NFL	6.5	
N4TB	78,588	354	74	SB80HP	WCF		
N4UU	2,491,236	2796	297	SOABHP	NFL	37.5	
N4WO	184,989	383	161	SOABLPu	NFL	11.3	
N4WW	378,726	1343	94	SB40m	NFL N4KM	31.3	
N6AR	865,080	801	360	SOABHPu	NFL		
NN4X	463,680	480	322	SOABHPu	SFL		
NT4TS	201,075	383	175	SOABQRP	SFL	30	
W1CRP	32,436			SOABLPu	WCF		
W3PV	101,682	269	126	SOABLP	SFL		
W4AA	1,200,960	1112	360	SOABLP	NFL		
W4CU	1,040,325	1067	325	SOABHPu	WCF		

NON-FLORIDA STATIONS:

Call	Score	QSOs	Mlt	Class	Sec	Ops	HRs
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
C6AKQ	2,447,106	1169	58	SB80HP	C6A	N4BP	
C6AZZ	230,376	1324	58	SB20m	C6A	KQ8Z	
KH2/N2NL	1,715,472	2166	264	SOABHPa	KH2	22	
KP2M	5,709,363	5581	341	MSHP	KP2	K9VV,KT3Y	48
KP2M	WP2XX						

ARRL DX SSB CLAIMED SCORES

FLORIDA STATIONS:

Call	Score	QSOs	Mlt	Class	Sec Ops	HRs
AC2N	17,544	86	68	SOABQRP	NFL	12
AD4ES	3,010,410	2490	403	MSHP	SFL +K9ES,AF4Z	47
AD4ES	2,975,349				K4QD,K4IMB	
AF4RK	19,809	93	71	SOABHP	SFL	8.9
K0LUZ	2,241,792	2224	336	SOABHPu	NFL	
K1HG	68,820			SOABLP	NFL	
K1KNQ	24,522	134	61	SB80m	NFL	10
K1PT	435,006	507	286	SOABHPu	SFL	9
K1TO	5,313,483	4053	437	SOABHP	WCF	43-
K2PS	225,504	864	87	SB10m	NFL	22
K3TW	73,530			SOABQRP	NFL	
K4CC	10,488	76	46	SB80m	WCF	
K4GOP	2,520			SB10m	NFL	
K4LM	270,000	375	240	SOABHPu	SFL	6.5
K4LO	406,107	507	267	SOABHP	NFL	18
K4LRP	99,630	246	135	SOABLPu	SFL	
K4XS	7,443,990	4638	535	SOABHP	NFL	47
K5KG	2,352			SOABHPu	WCF	
K9OM	477,000			SOABHPu	NFL	
KD2JA	260,124	409	212	SOABHPu	SFL	10.9
KD4ACG	112,959	231	163	SOABLPu	WCF	
KE1F	90	6	5	SB160m	NFL	
KT4KW	756			SOABLP	NFL	
KV4QS	73,914	194	127	SOABLP	SFL	6
N2ESP	478,044	588	271	SOABLPu	WCF	
N4BP	33,708	106	106	SOABHPu	SFL	
N4CR	369,075	475	259	SOABHPu	NFL	17
N4DL	25,527	127	67	SOABLPu	WCF	
N4EK	127,680	320	133	SOABLP	NFL	
N4DXI	47,376	168	94	SOABHPu	NFL	6
N4UU	100,098	249	134	SOABHP	NFL	8.5
NG4L	153,120			SOABLP	WCF	
NN4X	1,001,943	863	387	SOABHPu	SFL	
NT4TS	291,237	503	193	SOABQRP	SFL	
W1CRP	209,664			SOABLPu	WCF K1RQ	
W1MD	1,213,632	1176	344	SOABHPu	SFL	22.5
W4CU	273,600	475	192	SOABHPu	WCF	
W4JS	37,944	204	62	SB10m	WCF	7
W4KPG	300			SOABLPu	SFL	
W4LWZ	271,026			SOABHP	SFL	
W4QN	1,696,080	1480	382	SOABHP	SFL	
WB4MNK	132,486			SOABLP	NFL	
WB4OMM	3,552	37	32	SOABLPu	NFL	
WO4O	37,572	124	101	SOABLPu	NFL	

TOTAL = 28,982,346

NON-FLORIDA STATIONS: Log Club

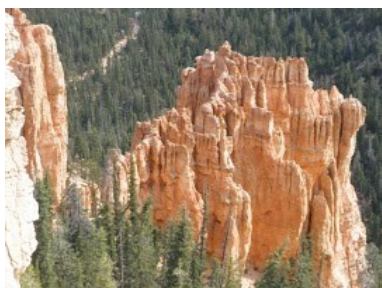
Obituary - Larry Newton N8BGJ

Larry B. Newton 66, of North Fort Myers, FL. Formerly of Minerva, OH. died Wednesday May 1, 2013 in Cape Coral Hospice House. Born in Tuscon, AZ to Raymond B and Lucille Monghan Newton, Larry graduated in 1964 from Alliance (OH) High School. He served two years active and 20 years Reserve in the U S Army retiring as 1st Sargent. Larry started at American Steel Foundries as a chipper, worked his way up to Department head of Molding and retired 1999.



Larry was and active member and Past Master of Noah Lodge #357, Commander and York Rite, Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club (N8BGJ), The Alert Net, Lunch Bunch, his church and Thursday Group. Larry was predeceased by his parents and first wife Judith Sherwood Newton.

He is survived by his second wife Marjorie, sons Robert Smith-Newton, Lawrence (Aerial), Joseph (Sara) all of Minerva, OH. and James Newton of Cayahoga Falls, OH. Also surviving is his sister Karen Crookshank of Clearwater, FL. Larry was an FCG member only a few months prior to his death. -



Motorcycle Adventure

Ed Note: Bruce W4OV and Bob K0CXX took a motorcycle trip through Bryce, Zion, Capital Reef and Arches National Parks in Utah, as well as Idaho, Northern California and Oregon. He volunteered to share some pictures with us. The rock formations are at in the Utah parks, the Redwood pictures below are in Redwood National Park in California.



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

Chris Plumblee, WF3C
4719 Fortuna Street
Orlando, FL 32807
Chris.plumblee@gmail.com

Fred Perkins, K4LQ
Secretary/Treasurer
Newsletter Editor
3437 Lake Josephine Drive
Lake Placid FL 33852
k4lq@arrl.net