



# Contest Gazette

## Florida Contest Group

www.floridacontestgroup.org



Volume 15 Issue 1

February 2008

### From the President's Corner

*By Dan Street, K1TO*

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## Welcome Aboard



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

**N3ND** - Dan Atchison, 308 Celtic Court, Oviedo FL 32765 e-mail: N3ND@aol.com

**K4CVL** - Mike Ryan, 3828 Commonwealth Rd., Palmetto FL 34221 e-mail: mryan001@tampabay.rr.com

**W4QN** - Norm Alexander, 18883 SE Jupiter River Drive, Jupiter FL 33458 e-mail: w4qn@bellsouth.net

**K4XS** - Bill Kollenbaum, PO Box 490, Laupahoehoe, HI 96764 e-mail cqtestk4xs@aol.com Bill will contest from KH7XS or KH7B.

**KH7YL** - Holly Kollenbaum - PO Box 490, Laupahoehoe, HI 96764

**K4FB** - Paul Womble, PO Box 873, Highland City FL 33846 e-mail: pwomble@tambabay.rr.com

## John Beck, W4AI SK

Former Member John R. Beck, W4AI passed away at a Sebring nursing home on Feb 11, 2008. He was 89.

John was originally licensed as W6MHB in San Francisco. In 1955 he went on his first DXpedition to TI9MHB.

The following year he joined RCA on the Air Force Eastern Test Range, where he worked as a Resident Engineer on many of the tracking stations. During this assignment he held the calls VP7BT on Eleuthera Island, VQ9J in the Seychelles, ZD8J on Ascension, and VP2A and VP2AAA on Antigua.

After he left the Range he worked with RCA Alaskom in Alaska where he held the call KL7AI. He retired from RCA in Alaska and returned to FL where he was licensed as K4LIV then W4AI.

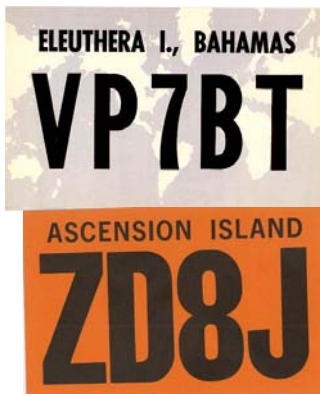
John was an avid DXer and contester, and had worked all but two countries. He is best remembered in the contesting world for his two # 1 World placements in CQWW DX CW Contests in 1966 and 1967 as ZD8J. He also had some outstanding scores in many ARRL DX CW contests from his DX locations.

He was most proud of a number of letters he had received from contest sponsors over the years attesting to the quality of his logs. John logged all his contests in pencil, then re-typed them on a typewriter for submission.

John moved to Sebring in 1992 with plans to build a contest station with three 140 ft towers, stacked yagis on the HF bands and substantial antennas on the low bands. Unfortunately his health failed before he was able to complete this project. He entered a nursing home in October 2004.

Today many FCGers are using equipment from John's station building project. John is gone but his equipment continues to be used not only in Florida, but at DX locations ranging from Hawaii to Scotland

RIP old friend! Fred K4LQ



*L-R Fred K4LQ, John W4AI, Dale W4QM in front of a truckload of W4AI tower sections etc. headed to Miami for trans shipment to GM3POI in September 2004.*



*Left - John at VP7BT In 1956*



*Below John at VP2AAA in 1980*



*Above: John's plaque for winning # 1 World in CQWW CW in 1967 with 1,616,873 points.*

*In 1966 he also won # 1 world in the same contest with 1,597,726 points, which earned him the Larry LeKashman W9IOP Cup.*

## Orlando Hamfest Meeting Report

*By Dan Street K1TO*

The FCG once again held its Orlando Hamcation meeting off site. Attendance overflowed the Golden Corral meeting room!



67 attendees included Members: AD4Z, AF4Z, HI3CCP, K1RQ, K1XX, K2EUH, K4LQ, K4PB, K4PG, K4QD, K5AUP, K5KG, K9ES, N4EK & XYL KD4BRJ, KC4HW, KI4RBY, KR4U & XYL KC4YAW, N4BP, N4EEB & XYL Tracy, N4GI, N4IG, N4KM, N4LZ, N4PJ & XYL Marsha, N4RI, N4WO, W0CN, W1MO, W1YL, W3TB, W4AMS, W4CU & XYL Joy, W4EIP, W4KPG & Peggy, W4LT, W4QM, W4SAA, W4STB & OM W4DKB, W4TBB & XYL KG4TPZ, W4TV, W4YA, W4ZW, WA4EEZ, WC4E, WF3C & Dad WA4FJK, WJ9B, WK2G, WO4D and Guests: AC8W & XYL KA8AMX, HI3LFE, K8DD, KE4MMI, KL7MF, W5JAY & XYL WQ5T, Johnny (friend of KC4HW)

30 others spotted at the hamfest but not at the meeting: AB4GO, AI4QY, K1PT & KD1BG, K4RX, K9VV, KI4PJC, KJ4UY & K4JUY, KP2N, N4KW, N4OO, N4WW, N8PR, NP2B, W1RG, W3AZD & WB3ANE, W4DN, W4EEQ, W4IR, W4OV, W4QG, W4UM & W4SLR, WA4AW & K3PGH, WC4H, WD4AHZ and WW4E.

Applause was given for Jim, W4YA who once again secured the reservation at the Golden Corral. (Given the attendance, perhaps a larger facility is in order for 2009!)

Dan spoke for a few minutes about Reidar, K2PT who joined the FCG last year. Reidar (aka Radar) is a US Marine now serving in Iraq who was able to get licensed as YI9PT. Thanks to Dan, W0CN for posting some information afterward about the YI9PT web site. Reidar's Stepp-IR arrived this week and he is looking for contributions towards an amplifier to be shipped over soon. Loud applause for Reidar ensued for his efforts on behalf of the USA.

Dan passed along comments from Ron, K8NZ who expressed gratitude at the outpouring of sympathy and support after his daughter Shannon was murdered in Seattle on New Year's Eve.

Jon, W4ZW kindly took on the task of photographing the entire group present. Jon posted his pictures to <http://www.flickr.com/groups/fcg2008>

Fred, K4LQ updated the group...

"Treasury status - \$4353.56"

"W1CW / K4OJ Memorial Fund - \$1530"

"We finished 2006 with 187 members, 2007 with 210 members. As of today we have 213 members. Right now, we have 55 members that have not yet paid dues. At the end of this month we will delete unpaid members from the roster. I will publish a list of deleted members on the reflector. I have asked for anyone moving out of state or quitting the club for any reason to let me know. I've heard nothing from anyone."

"We currently have honorary members in HI, HS, KP4, OM6, V44, VQ9 and YI. I will be sending an e-mail this week to our stateside members who have left FL inviting them to retain their membership on an honorary basis - no dues. We currently have members in AL, GA and HI."

"Thanks to members for their continued high level of contributions to the newsletter. Hope to have the next issue out by the end of the month."

Members attending their first meeting were asked to take a minute to describe their station and contesting interests. N4WO, K2EUH, KI4RBY, W4CU, WA4EEZ, KR4U and K5AUP all spoke to the group.

Art, N4PJ's wife Marsha passed her Technician exam the morning of the hamfest and is interested in learning CW, among other things. Applause ensued.

Guests included a group from our Mad River Radio Club friends that was headed to a rental QTH in PZ5 for a multi-op in ARRL CW. Other planned FCG operations for ARRL CW were single-band efforts in C6 by N4BP on 160 as C6AHQ, K4PG on 80 as C6APG and K9VV on 40 as C6AHU, plus a group going to J7 that included N4PN and NF4A. K1XX announced that he and W1MD are headed to V26X for an ARRL SSB M/S.

TallyMan duties seem to be peaking with no less than 13 contests the weekend of the meeting! Several members are operating the WPX RTTY.

FQP plaques for 2007 are being made, but were not quite available in time to be presented at the meeting. Those present at the meeting who sponsored plaques were individually recognized with applause. WC4E noted that FQP certificates should be out soon.

George, K5KG handed out cards for the club apparel supplier in Sarasota - StitchinWaves. Dan pointed out several shirts in the crowd that have the new and improved logo on which the water is actually blue. Info is also available on the FCG web page. George also had QSL cards on hand from his FB effort at E51 back in November.

He applauded the efforts of Julio HI3A who worked him on 6 bands when George was at E51.

Jim, KC4HW presented the plaque for the top club score in the Alabama QSO Party, amazingly won by the FCG. Jim has done a super job in vastly improving the AQP and also



getting the Alabama Contest Group going in a big way.

Tatino, HI3CCP spoke briefly to the group about his FB station on Loma del Toro in the Dominican Republic and invited members to come over to operate there. Others from the D.R. at the Orlando meeting included Lorenzo, HI3LFE and two ladies from the Indotel licensing authority – Patria Heredia and Carmen Rodriguez.

Ted, W3TB brought up the concept of an “internal FQP” and posted a follow-up note to the club reflector which spawned some good ideas for club activities.

Dan asked for a show of hands from those who listened for the 40 Meter moonbounce echoes from the HAARP station in Alaska. Only a few had listened this time around. Radar was a prevalent theme at the meeting.

Joe, W4SAA is working on a location in Okeechobee County for an April FCG meeting. The FCG has met at Camp Grace the past two years, but that facility is not available this year. Since the meeting, Joe was unable to find a suitable location with a covered meeting area and picnic/cooking facilities, so we are looking for other volunteers to locate an April meeting site.

73, Dan

*Meeting Photos by Jon W4ZW*



K2EUH



K4PB



K4LQ



W4YA



K4QD



W3TB



WJ9B



WO4D



KC4HW



WA4EEZ



K4PG



KR4U



K5KG N4BP



K8DD K1XX



N4WO W4SAA



W4TV



Marsha N4PJ



K1TO W4STB



AC8W KA8AMX



WF3C WA4FJK



N4EK KD4BRJ



W1MO W4QM



W4TBB



KL7MF W1YL



WC4E



W4KPG Peggy



K9ES



Group



L-R HI3CCP  
HI3LFE  
HI3A/AD4Z



*Jim KC4HW awards the plaque for highest scoring club in the Alabama QSO Party to Dan K1TO*



*Dan K1TO conducts the meeting.*

## Jordan Mash, WB2QLP SK

Former Member Jordan Mash WB2QLP passed away on February 15, 2008. The Memoriam paragraph and picture below is taken from the Amateur Radio of Southwest Florida (ARASWF) February newsletter.

### IN MEMORIAM

It is with great sadness that we have to announce the passing of Jordan Mash WB2QLP. His passing will be a great loss to all members of the Amateur Radio Association of Southwest Florida, as well as the entire Amateur Radio Community.

Jordan died peacefully in the early morning hours of February 15, 2008 at Naples Community Hospital from complications from cancer. His mother, Freida, was present with Jordan at the time of his passing. As you all know, Jordan was a lifelong Radio Amateur and Life Member of ARASWF, who made many contributions to our fraternity.

Services will be held in Long Island, New York on Tuesday February 19th 2008 at 12:00 pm at Gutterman's Funeral Home in Rockville Center. Rabbi Chiger will preside at the services.

Jordan's mother, Frieda, will be sitting shiva for the week following the services.

In lieu of flowers, Frieda has requested that donations be made to the American Cancer Society in the name of Jordan Mash WB2QLP.















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