



# Contest Gazette

## Florida Contest Group



www.floridacontestgroup.org

Volume 25 Issue 2

July 2018

### From the President's Corner

By Chris Plumlee WF3C

Greetings to all basking in the post -WRTC glow! I understand the Y8 stations were fairly easy to work, at least on 20m and 40m. At least one club member was able to log all WRTC stations on SSB and CW - no mean feat! Congratulations to W4UH!



A number of other club members swept the WRTC stations on CW-only or with a combination of CW and SSB, including N4WW and K3TW. Even if you were only able to get on for a short time, I hope you had a good time operating.

Summer is a slow time for contesting, though not (hopefully) for 6m ESkip. If 6m or 2m is your thing, I hope you found some time to get on for the CQWW VHF contest last weekend. I understand that thunderstorms kept activity down somewhat in FL, but that conditions were not terrible when the weather permitted operation.

The NAQP RTTY shares a weekend with the CQWW VHF contest if your tastes run more toward HF Digital. No matter what particular flavor of contesting excites you, we encourage you to get on the air and operate.

The transition of the FCG reflector to groups.io seems to be largely complete. Before the next newsletter goes out, we expect to move the group archives from kkn.net over to groups.io so our history will not be lost. The group archives can be a very powerful way to answer questions that may have been posed in the past, or just to get a laugh out of some old posts. Keep your eyes open for posts summarizing claimed scores after major contests...they can be helpful in gauging activity and scores from prior sunspot cycles, for instance. The results will be more local than the 3830 archives.

Field Day was about a month ago. I know a lot of us scatter to our local clubs to help operate, or operate from home. .

Without a consistent host for a summertime gathering since the end of the VicNic and the VVicNic, it occurs to me that we could combine Field Day with a club gathering. Would there be any interest in an intra-club competition for Field Day? Perhaps divided geographically? I'm envisioning a number (3-4) of 1A or 2A Field Day stations around the state, staffed primarily or exclusively by FCG members, with similar antennas. It would have the flavor of a mini-WRTC. I'm envisioning geographic divisions to minimize travel as much as possible. This idea came originally from K1XX. . I've operated with a number of group for Field Day, and while we always have a good time and I enjoy getting to operate with some FCG friends, I have long admired PVRC and their mammoth field day operation as W3AO in Maryland. I don't have the appetite to challenge them in putting a station on every possible band and mode for the entire 24 hours. Aside from the practicalities of getting operators and equipment together, 80m and 160m in Florida in the summertime are no fun for a few hours overnight, much less full-time!

Equipment needs would be minimal. A 2A operation with triplexer would be similar to a WRTC station, and wouldn't be much more difficult to put together. We could do a traveling trophy in the style of the Stanley Cup, with each year's winners engraved. I'm interested in your feedback on this prospective club initiative. Let's discuss on the reflector or via direct email to me at [chris.plumlee@gmail.com](mailto:chris.plumlee@gmail.com)

#### Inside this Issue

Welcome Aboard, Events Calendar, Better Than a Certificate by K2PS.....	2
FQP Pictures.....	3,4, 5, 6, 7, 8
CQ Hall of Fame Inductees.....	9,10
KK4FBN Elected ARRL SM for NFL, WRTC Results, .....	10
Dayton Pictures.....	11
Some of the New Products at Dayton.....	12
Tornado picture by Walt W7SE.....	13
FCG E-Mail Reflectors .....	14,15,16,17

.Keep your calendar cleared for the Melbourne Hamfest in October. It's traditionally our preseason gathering before contest season (other than CQWW RTTY a couple of weeks prior) begins. This year the hamfest will be October 12 - 13. We will again have a club table inside where you can sit and chat or sell some of your junkie. We also expect to have a contest forum on Saturday at noon featuring pizza and drinks free of charge for all attendees. We will also have a club gathering after the hamfest on Saturday. Traditionally it's been held at K9ES's house in West Melbourne; I will confirm Eric's availability. Look for final word on the reflector soon.

73/OJ,  
Chris WF3C

### Better Than a Certificate!



Some of you may recall that, incredibly, I managed to become the world-wide winner of last December's Ten-Meter RTTY Contest. I did put up my 4-element ya-gi in the backyard for the contest, but still managed only 32 contacts over the 24 hours. Conditions were horrible, but I guess they were a little less horrible into Central Florida than they were in the rest of the world. Or maybe I was just a little crazier than everyone else for being willing to knock my head against the wall trying to make QSOs.

Well, I just received my award for winning, and it wasn't just another certificate that the XYL won't let me put on the wall. I've attached a photo. The best part of this now is that, when some non-ham asks, "so what did you win?", I have something to which they can relate.

73, Pete, K2PS

### Contributors To This Edition

WF3C, K5KG, K2PS, NX4N, K8MR, KU8E, N4KM, K1KNQ, K9ES, KE1F, The ARRL Letter

### Welcome Aboard



**K3SV** - Bill Gillenwater, 11321 Grandview Drive, Dade City FL 33525 e-mail: gillie@pa.net

### Events Calendar

- North American QSO Party, CW 1800Z Aug3 to 0559Z Aug 5
- WAE DX Contest, CW 0600Z Aug 11 to 2359Z Aug 12
- SARTG WW RTTY Contest 0000Z—0800Z Aug 18  
1600Z—2400Z Aug 18  
0800z— 1600Z Aug 19
- North American QSO Party, SSB 11800Z Aug 18 to 0559Z Aug 19
- All Asian DX Contest, Phone 0000Z Sep 1 to 2400Z Sep 2
- ARRL September VHF Contest 1800Z Sep 8 to 0300Z Sep 10
- Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW 1200Z Sep 15 to 1200Z Sep 16
- CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY 0000Z Sep 29 to 2400Z Sep 30
- Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB 1200Zt Oct 13 to 1200Z Oct 14
- Worked All Germany Contest 1500Z Oct 20 to 1459Z Oct 21
- CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB 0000Z Oct 27 to 2400Z oct 28
- ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW 2100Z Nov 3 2o 0300Z Nov 5
- ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB 2100Z Nov 17 to 0300Z Nov 19
- CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW 0000Z Nov 24 to 2400Z Nov 25

FQP Pictures

K4OJ/M



Above and right -Red K0LUZ



Above-Kevin N4KM



Left-Chris NX4N



Above - K4OJ/M Antennas



No stop here—a good sized brush fire



L-R Red K0LUZ, Kevin N4KM and Lili, XYL of Chris NX4N



No stop here either—Bingo and Gaming



Better get to the gas station - Pronto!



L-R Chris NX4N, Kevin N4KM and Red K0LUZ

**K8MR/M**



**Above and Below: At Fishing Pier State Park**



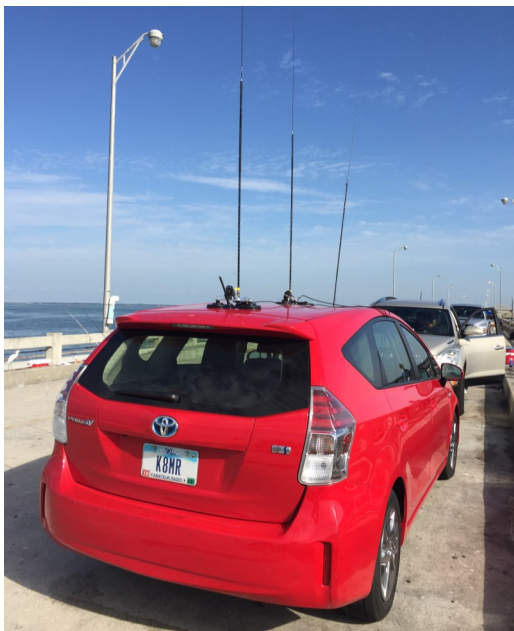
**K8MR At the Collier Hendry Line**



**KJ4LQX Portable  
In Monroe County**



**IC-7000, KDG IT-100 autotuner, Dell laptop with N3FJP software.**



**Homebrew antenna stand, fiberglass military masts around 35', G5RV jr. antenna in an inverted V configuration.**

**KU8E/M (Below)**



**Below: Eric K9ES working he FQP from his home station.**



**Below: Lou KE1F working the FQP from his home station.**



K4FCG/M



All the pictures on this page are the mobile setup of jack K1KNQ who operated FQp as K4FCG



**K4KG/M**



Above—The FQP team of George K5KG and Jim VE7ZO. They have operated the FQP many years together



Dan K1TO visits with his team before the FQP begins.

**N4FP**



N4FP 2016 Kia Sportage with horizontally mounted 20 and 40 meter Hustler resonators. An unusual antenna, but Wayne says it works very well. He has been using it for the past five years, earlier on a different vehicle.



## CQ Announces 2018 Inductees into the CQ DX Hall of Fame

CQ NEWS RELEASE (Announcing: 2018 Inductees, CQ DX Hall of Fame). Rich Moseson, W2VU, Editor or CQ Amateur Radio, sent out the following on May 18th:

Kimo Chun, KH7U, and Krassimir "Krassy" Petkov, K1LZ/LZ1SA, Inducted into CQ DX Hall of Fame -- CQ magazine today announced the induction of two new members to the CQ DX Hall of Fame, which honor those DXers who not only excel in personal performance but who also "give back" to the hobby in outstanding ways. CQ DX Editor Bob Schenck, N2OO, presented Hall of Fame plaques at an induction ceremony held at the annual Dayton DX dinner on May 18th.

The 2018 inductees to the CQ DX Hall of Fame are:

Kimo Chun, KH7U - was nominated by the Dateline DX Association, of which is a founding member. He has operated on many major DXpeditions, including Kingman Reef, Christmas Island, Palmyra Atoll, Cambodia and Midway Island. In addition, he routinely provides logistical assistance to hams planning Pacific island DXpeditions; and provides electronic maintenance support for groups administering Pacific island nature preserves, including the Nature Conservancy and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

A longtime member of Hawaii's Department of Emergency Management RACES team, Kimo was recently featured on an NBC News story about last year's accidental nuclear attack alert message sent out in Hawaii, and emphasized the role played by amateurs as the first to alert the public that the message was sent in error.

Krassimir "Krassy" Petkov, K1LZ/LZ1SA - Nominated by the Araucaria DX Group of Brazil, the Bulgarian Federation of Radio Amateurs and the Yankee Clipper Contest Club, Krassy has made many behind-the-scenes contributions to DXing and contesting over the years. A veteran of two dozen DXpeditions, Krassy has also provided or arranged financial and/or material support to many others. He also co-founded the Young Ham Contest Program in 2003, taking hams under age 21 to operate in major contests from Caribbean superstations; and served on the board of the 2006 World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) competition in Brazil. He has also worked with fellow DXers during DXpeditions to promote amateur radio and provide equipment for hams in the countries in which the groups operated.

The CQ DX Hall of Fame was established in 1967 to recognize those amateurs who have made major contributions to DXing and DXpeditioning. This year's inductions bring the total number of members of the CQ DX Hall of Fame to 73..

## CQ Announces 2018 Inductees into the Amateur Radio Hall of Fame

NEWS RELEASE (Announcing: 2018 Inductees, CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame). Rich Moseson, W2VU, Editor or CQ Amateur Radio, sent out the following on May 18th:

The CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame has 11 new members or 2018, CQ magazine announced today. This brings to 321 the total number of members inducted since the hall's establishment in 2001. The CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame honors those individuals, whether licensed hams or not, who have made significant contributions to amateur radio; and those amateurs who have made significant contributions either to amateur radio, to their professional careers or to some other aspect of life on our planet. The 2018 inductees (listed alphabetically) are:

- \* Marlon Brando, FO5GJ (SK), iconic movie actor
- \* David Brown, KC5ZTC (SK), NASA astronaut killed in 2003 Columbia disaster
- \* Kalpana Chawla, KD5ESI (SK), NASA astronaut killed in 2003 Columbia disaster
- \* Laurel Clark, KC5ZSU (SK), NASA astronaut killed in 2003 Columbia disaster
- \* Ashhar Farhan, VU2ESE, pioneer in popularizing open-source Bit-X "semi-kits" using Arduinos for affordable QRP transceivers
- \* Grady Fox, W4FRM (SK), SSB pioneer; worked on Manhattan Project during World War II and the camera for NASA's lunar landers
- \* Wendell King, ex-2ADD (SK), African-American pioneer of broadcasting and college radio
- \* Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ, founder of QRZ.com, the most widely-accessed amateur radio website
- \* Mark Pecan, KC9X/VE3QAM, wireless communication and networking pioneer, inventor, cybersecurity expert
- \* Carole Perry, WB2MGP, longtime advocate for youth in amateur radio;=moderator of Dayton youth forum for more than 30 years
- \* Ed Westcott, W4UVS, photographer who chronicled the Manhattan Project during World War II and later helped the FBI with its investigation of the Jonestown massacre

## WRTC 2018 Results

A crack team of testers from Lithuania won the gold medal in World Radiosport Team Championship 2018 (WRTC 2018 <http://www.wrtc2018.de/>), Operating as Y81N, Gedas Lucinskas, LY9A, and Mindis Jukna, LY4L, topped the real-time scoreboard for much of the event. Their winning score was 5,690,685 with 5139 contacts, 3617 of which were on CW.

Taking second place to the pleasure of the German sponsors was the Y81A team of Manfred Wolf, DJ5MW, and Stefan von Baltz, DL1IAO, with 5,273,488 points, with 4,936 contacts, a majority on CW. They placed third in a nail-biting finale for the bronze at WRTC 2014. The mostly German audience gave Wolf and Baltz a huge ovation at the WRTC 2018 awards ceremony.

In the third spot this time around was the WRTC 2014 defending champion team of Dan Craig, N6MJ, and Chris Hurlbut, KL9A, who operated as Y82V, and racked up a final tally of 4,891,710 points, heavily weighted toward CW

Teams with FCG members finished as follows: .

11 Y87O N2NL W2SC 4.548.429

30 Y89U K9VV VE3EJ 4.064.017

54 Y82B AD4Z NP4Z 3.492.360

## FCGer Kevin Bess KK4BFN elected ARRL Section Manager for North Florida



From the ARRL Letter - In Northern Florida, Kevin Bess, KK4BFN, outpolled Scott Roberts, KK4ECR, 564 to 447, to succeed current SM Steve Szabo, WB4OMM. Bess is a Northern Florida Assistant Section Manager, and a member of the Daytona Beach CERT Amateur Radio Team and of the Florida Contest Group. Szabo opted not to run for a third term of office after serving since July 2014.

## CQ Announces 2018 Inductees into the CQ Contest Hall of Fame

Rich Moseson, W2VU, Editor of CQ Amateur Radio, sent out the following on May 19th:

Andy Blank, N2NT, and Tom Wagner, N1MM, Inducted into CQ Contest Hall of Fame -- CQ magazine today announced the induction of two new members to the CQ Contest Hall of Fame, which honors those testers who not only excel in personal performance but who also "give back" to the hobby in outstanding ways. CQ Contesting Editor David Siddall, K3ZJ, presented Hall of Fame plaques at an induction ceremony held at the annual Dayton contest dinner on May 19th.

The 2018 inductees to the CQ Contest Hall of Fame are:

Andy Blank, N2NT - Nominated by the Frankford Radio Club, Andy has been the director of the CQ World Wide 160-Meter DX Contest for the past decade. A world-class tester with wins stretching back to 1979, Andy has also competed in five World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) competitions and was Director of Competition for WRTC-2014, held in Massachusetts. He is also a member of the advisory board of the World Wide Radio Operators' Foundation (WWROF).

Tom Wagner, N1MM - Nominated by both the Yankee Clipper Contest Club and the Northern California Contest Club, Tom is best known for his development of and ongoing upgrades to the N1MM Logger, which has become the world's most popular contest logging software. The program supports more than 240 different contests, multiple operating modes and integration with any number of transceivers and station accessories. Tom now leads a team of developers who are developing further enhancements and were recognized with the YASME Excellence Award in 2015.

The CQ Contest Hall of Fame was established in 1986 to recognize those amateurs who have made major contributions to the art of radio contesting. This year's inductions bring the total number of members of the CQ Contest Hall of Fame to 71.

# Dayton 2018



Above: Attendees were hauled from the parking lot to the main hamfest with tractors and trailers.



At Hamvention, ARRL Section Managers Oscar Resto, KP4RF (right) and Fred Kleber, K9VV, accepted the 2017 ARRL International Humanitarian Award on behalf of the radio amateurs of Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands.

### Some of the New Products at Dayton



**Yaesu  
FT DX 101D**



**Kenwood  
TS-890S  
Transceiver**



**Alpha 4040  
4KW  
Automatic  
Antenna  
Tuner**



**Flexradio  
Power  
Genius XL  
Solid State  
1500 Watt  
Amplifier**



**Palstar  
Antenna Tuner**



**Flexradio 6400M  
Transceiver**



**Charly 25 SDR  
Transceiver**



Lotsof mobile antennas at Dayton, in all shapes and sizes

Here is a close up picture of a tornado taken by FCGer Walt K7SE. at his QTH near Laramie Wyoming on June 6, 2018. His towers are very close to the tornado. Fortunately neither his towers or his home were damaged



## FCG Email Reflectors — [FCG@GROUPS.io](mailto:FCG@GROUPS.io) & [FQP@GROUPS.io](mailto:FQP@GROUPS.io)

The [FCG@KKN.net](mailto:FCG@KKN.net) and [FQP@KKN.net](mailto:FQP@KKN.net) email reflectors served the Florida Contest Group (FCG) well for many years but, with the advancement of technology, as well as some imminent changes with **KKN.net**, the time had come for the FCG to consider a new email service.

The FCG officers had been notified early in 2018 by the owners of **KKN.net** that their system would be moved to a new server, and that we should prepare our members to be aware of the approaching change. It was envisioned that the switch-over would not be problematic, as the existing members and message archives would be moved to the new server, to be named **LISTS.KKN.net**. At the time, the FCG officers requested that the switch to the new server not be done near the time of the Florida QSP Party (FQP) when there would be a great deal of message traffic on [FQP@KKN.net](mailto:FQP@KKN.net). The owners of **KKN.net** agreed, and delayed the switch-over to occur sometime after FQP. Unfortunately, we were not advised of exactly when the switch-over would occur.

In anticipation of the change of **KKN.net** to a new server, Charlie, K1XX undertook a study of other email services, including **GROUPS.IO**, a popular email service rich in advanced features, and recently adopted by other ham groups, including N1MM+, YCCC, and B26 Amplifier (a German company). A test version of [FQP@GROUPS.io](mailto:FQP@GROUPS.io) was set up and tested. After extensive testing, by Charlie and George, K5KG, it was recommended to replace **KKN.net** with **GROUPS.io**. With positive results from the testing, as well as Charlie, K1XX's experience with [YCCC@GROUPS.io](mailto:YCCC@GROUPS.io), the FCG officers agreed with Charlie's recommendation, and agreed moving to **GROUPS.io**.

A major feature of **GROUPS.io** is its ability to handle email messages with attachments, such as files, diagrams, photos, etc. Other features include unlimited subscribers, unlimited subgroups, a group calendar, a files section, a photos section, chat, and wiki. **GROUPS.io** is a free service as long as our storage requirement does not exceed a "free" limit of 1GB.

It's unlikely that we will exceed the 1GB limit, but if we do, we can purge some old files and avoid an overcharge.)

The FQP came and went in April, and then quite unexpectedly on CQ WPX CW weekend (May 25-26, 2018), [FCG@KKN.net](mailto:FCG@KKN.net) and [FQP@KKN.net](mailto:FQP@KKN.net) went down. This left us in a quandary, not knowing if this was a system failure, or was this the chosen time for the conversion of **KKN.net** to a new server. If it was the change to the new server, it came without any warning from the **KKN.net** owners. It's safe to say that we got a deluge of complaints from our members during this period, so there was an urgent need to get an email service up and running for the FCG.

With this uncertainty facing us, and knowing that we had successfully tested **GROUPS.io**, we decided to immediately rollout [FCG@GROUPS.io](mailto:FCG@GROUPS.io) and [FQP@GROUPS.io](mailto:FQP@GROUPS.io). The decision to go directly to **GROUPS.io** was taken to avoid two conversions; one by moving all members from **KKN.net** to **LISTS.KKN.net**, and then making a later move to **GROUPS.io**.

We would use the existing member email addresses, as well as the email addresses in our FCG club database. We realized that many of these addresses would not be current. With **KKN.net** being out of service, we embarked on sending **GROUPS.io** invitations "in the blind" to the email address we had in hand, knowing full well that many of them would be incorrect.

Subsequent to this initial emailing of **GROUPS.io** invitations, untold hours were spent by FCG officers unraveling the myriad email addresses in our files. The email address difficulties were generally related to four areas:

- Members using numerous or multiple email addresses
- Members changing email addresses and not notifying the club secretary
- Email addresses comprised of unrecognizable gibberish, such as [ax-labjker@123.com](mailto:ax-labjker@123.com).
- Missing or incorrect email addresses on QRZ.com

In short, we encourage FCG members to use email addresses that include recognizable information, especially names and/or call signs. With a club of our size — some 300 members — it is important that we are able to recognize members by their email address.

As of this writing, 190 club members have signed onto [FCG@GROUPS.io](mailto:FCG@GROUPS.io). For those members who are NOT yet on [FCG@GROUPS.io](mailto:FCG@GROUPS.io), please let us know your email address by sending a note FCG Secretary, Fred, K4LQ, at [fperkins@centurylink.net](mailto:fperkins@centurylink.net). If you have a buddy in the FCG who may not know of the change to [GROUPS.io](mailto:GROUPS.io), please let them know.

For those members who are now signed up on [FCG@GROUPS.io](mailto:FCG@GROUPS.io), please make sure that your profile is updated with your call sign and name (format: CALL NAME – Ex. K5KG George). This is extremely important for the administrators of the list. Additionally, we encourage everyone to upload their photo to the profile. Although this is optional, it helps others to identify members listed in the Directory.

It was established many years ago, that a benefit afforded to dues paying members of the Florida Contest Group would be the use of the FCG email reflector. During this transition from [FCG@KKN.net](mailto:FCG@KKN.net) to [FCG@gropups.io](mailto:FCG@gropups.io), we became aware that many FCG members were in arrears with their dues payments. We temporarily lifted this requirement while getting as many FCG members as possible signed up on [FCG@GROUPS.io](mailto:FCG@GROUPS.io). However, now that the bulk of our members are signed up, we ask everyone who is not paid up with their dues, or if they are uncertain of their dues status, to please contact FCG Treasurer, Charlie, K1XX, ([k1xx@k1xx.com](mailto:k1xx@k1xx.com)) and bring their dues current.

**Here is our sales pitch about dues:** Many members choose to pay dues for several years at a time, so as to not have to be concerned about missing an annual payment. And, of course, this helps the FCG treasury, and allows the club to help financially support important contesting efforts, such as the generous contributions the FCG made to the 2018 World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) in the memory of W1CW, K4OJ, and WD4AHZ .



By making the change from [FCG@KKN.net](mailto:FCG@KKN.net) to [FCG@GROUPS.io](mailto:FCG@GROUPS.io) and [FQP@KKN.net](mailto:FQP@KKN.net) to [FQP@GROUPS.io](mailto:FQP@GROUPS.io), members can access the archives containing mails were sent or received in the past.

FCG@KKN.net archives are available at <https://LISTS.KKN.net/mailman/listinfo/fcg>

FQP@KKN.net archives are available at <https://LISTS.KKN.net/mailman/listinfo/fqp>

Members are encouraged to contact a club officer if they have questions about the operation of the group.io reflectors, or if they have suggestions about new and inventive ways to use the many features of **GROUPS.io**.

73,

Chris Plumblee, WF3C – FCG President  
Fred Perkins, K4LQ – FCG Secretary  
Charlie Carroll, K1XX – FCG Treasurer  
George Wagner, K5KG – VP Operations  
Dan Street, K1TO – VP Florida QSO Party

For a full description of Groups.io features, go to: <https://groups.io/static/features>

**Florida Contest Group**

Chris Plumblee WF3C  
President  
4719 Fontana Street  
Orlando FL 32807  
[Chris.plumblee@gmail.com](mailto:Chris.plumblee@gmail.com)

George Wagner, K5KG  
V.P. Operations  
5113 Higel Avenue  
Sarasota FL 34242  
[k5kg@k5kgcom](mailto:k5kg@k5kgcom)

Dan Street, K1TO,  
V.P. Florida QSO Party  
9993 289th Street East  
Myakka City, FL 34251  
[k1to@aol.com](mailto:k1to@aol.com)

Charles Carroll, K1XX  
Treasurer  
P O Box 428  
Grant FL 32949  
[k1xx@k1xx.com](mailto:k1xx@k1xx.com)

Fred Perkins, K4LQ  
Secretary/Newsletter Editor  
3437 Lake Josephine Drive  
Sebring FL 33875  
[fperkins@centurylink.net](mailto:fperkins@centurylink.net)