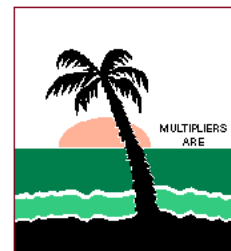




Contest Gazette

Florida Contest Group

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Volume 22 Issue 1

March 2015

From the President's Corner

By Dan Street, K1TO

2014 was an unprecedented year and one to remember for a long time!

The FCG had a huge presence at WRTC-2014 in central New England last July, providing competitors, referees, site support and a Director. The FCG provided matching funding in preceding years and ended up sponsoring 5 tents, more than any other club in the world! Once again, huge thanks to all who contributed.

Many FCGers also attended the ARRL's Centennial Convention in Hartford during the week immediately following the WRTC.

ARRL's Centennial QSO Party provided a big boost to the daily activity on the bands. Many FCGers joined the year-long pursuit of Centennial points. Kay, N3KN was the most sought-after operator on the air as ARRL President, but she managed to fit in enough FQP activity to win the plaque for top non-FL YL.

Hosting W1AW/4 twice (February with N8PR and the SFDXA leading the charge, and November with the FCG and WF3C at the helm) produced a huge amount of club activity and about 100,000 cumulative QSOs, ranking us pretty high among the 50 states. 99 ops in FL, most of them FCG members, got the chance to "be Hiram" by operating W1AW/4. And a few of us got the chance to operate in other areas, too, such as N4BP and W4OV joining NP2X in KP2.

Chasing the various W1AW/x operations was another huge activity for FCG members in 2014. Several members finished in the top echelon, working W1AW/x on a huge number of band/mode combinations.

Mother Nature treated us to a second peak in the sunspot cycle with the pinnacle coinciding with CQ WPX SSB in late March. We were all lined up for an unbelievable FQP 27 days later, but conditions deteriorated somewhat and it wasn't quite the same magical week-end.

Nonetheless, the FQP was another fine one as we returned to the 2011 level of activity without the boost from the special 1x1 callsigns. That segues nicely into discussing 2015...

We will once again activate 1x1s for the FQP coming up next month with the suffixes spelling out "ORANGE". Stay tuned for more details.

At the recent luncheon in Orlando, Fred, K4LQ made the long-awaited announcement that we had reached 300 members! For quite a few years now, our membership level has climbed slowly into the high 200s only to fall back a bit at dues payment time.

We do again remember and miss Dick, N9CM, Pres W4FDA and Bruce, AA4Z who passed away during 2014.



114 attended the Orlando Contest Dinner last month to hear retired Vice Admiral Scott Redd, K0DQ address the group and regale us with stories of both his fine Naval career and his ham radio exploits. Thanks again to Chris, WF3C for coordinating the many details for the dinner, and to all of the fine prize sponsors, led again by Yaesu.

With band conditions that favor us at times, ARRL DX CW was terrific fun and we amassed over 50 million points on that mode, likely a new high water mark for the FCG. It's neat to be the only USA being heard in Europe during those early morning hours on 20 Meters. And enjoy 10 Meters while we can. It wasn't that many years ago when working Europe and Japan on 10 was only a dream during that long sunspot minimum.

Please take a moment to support the 2015 version of the Amateur Radio Parity Act which is legislation that is reintroduced in the US House of Representatives. <http://www.arrrl.org/hr-1301> has more details. Note the ARRL request to send your letter via ARRL rather than directly to your Representative.

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Dues collection is nearly complete. For those who remain outstanding, please let Fred (or me) know of your intention re continuing with the club. One of the largest club expenses for many years was printing and mailing certificates for the FQP, but thanks to Steve, WB4OMM, who now produces electronic certificates as .PDFs, that expense has gone away.

Thanks again to the tireless efforts of my fellow club officers and regular contributors. Fred, K4LQ publishes these Gazettes in addition to his duties as Treasurer and Secretary. VP Chris, WF3C is a big help to me/us in many ways. Congrats to VP George, K5KG who is now the Chairman of the ARRL Contest Advisory Committee. VP Ron, WD4AHZ supports the FCG and FQP web sites and e-mail reflectors which are continue to provide great resources for club members and beyond. (Huge thanks also to kkn.net, especially K5TR and N5KO for their seamless support for the club.) The score postings from Fred, NP2X give us a consolidated view of our collective group effort and I'm sure help a number of us remember to submit our log. Frank, K4EJ reminds us each week to be radio-active each coming weekend, along with his very unique take. Since we *are* a contest club, these two fellows really address the main goal of the club. We appreciate the support of ARRL SE Division Director Doug, K4AC. Many others are a huge help with the FQP, club gatherings and other activities.

And finally, thanks to all of you for being members of this terrific organization and contributing in whatever way you can. We make no demands on anyone for scores or anything else, and appreciate whatever amount of time and effort that works for you.

OJ! GO FCG in 2015!

Vy 73 (and apologies for the lateness of this lead), Dan
President, FCG

Newsletter Team for March 2015

Wrote lead article and provided extensive editing - K1TO

Provided articles and in some cases pictures - K4LQ, K5KG, KB9TQ, N4KW, NF4A, W1YL, WF3C, ARRL Contest Update Newsletter

Provided score summaries - NP2X

Provided pictures - KE1F, SP4Z, VO1MP, W4OV, WA4AOB

Repaired newsletter page on FCG website and uploaded newsletter - WD4AHZ-

Assembled inputs in a template and published newsletter - K4LQ

2015 Dues Notification

FCG 2015 dues are due 1 January, at the rate of \$5 per year. Multiple year memberships are encouraged, and free you up from the annual nagging by your Treasurer to get your dues up to date. Please send your dues to me at the following address: Fred Perkins, 3437 Lake Josephine Drive, Lake Placid FL 33852.

Thanks and 73, Fred K4LQ

Welcome Aboard



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

K3SEN - Dale Grey, 1861 Seclusion Drive, Port Orange FL 32128 e-mail: zqqmin@hotmail.com

KA4SFD - Walter Haumesser, 9035 Grant St., Brooksville FL 34613 e-mail: sonshinestable@yahoo.com

K4JC - Vince Weal, 420 Grant Road, Grant-Valkaria FL 32909-7107 e-mail: vincek4jc@gmail.com

WR3Y - Rob Scott, 826 Jefferson Way, West Chester PA 19380 e-mail: robertgscott@gmail.com

N4OX - Jay Camac, 5910 South Highway 99, Walnut Hill FL 32568 e-mail: jayn4ox@gmail.com

WN8Y - Kenny Johns, 52 Buttonwood Drive, Jackson TN 38305 e-mail: ab4eg@eplus.net

W9DEC - Dave Conrad, 2405 Olympus Ct., Melbourne FL 32935 e-mail: w9dec@att.net

ND8L - Ray Fallen, 304 E. Liberty St., Hubbard OH 44435-2136 e-mail: ray.fallen@gmail.com

KT8TD - Bruce Graham, 7535 SW 185th Avenue Rd., Dunellon FL 34432 e-mail: bgraham@huronet.com

KA4JRY - Gordon Johnson, 210 Bonnie Ct., Satellite Beach FL 32937-2003 e-mail: gwjohn01@earthlink.net

K4RUM - Mike Cotton, 37 W. 21st St., Apt 1504, New York NY 10010 e-mail: k4rum.mike@gmail.com

K2ADA - Andy Allen, 550 S. Banana River Dr., Apt 301, Merritt Island FL 32952 e-mail: andy@k2ada.net

N0MU - Joe Allen, PO Box 9101, Panama City Beach, FL 32417 e-mail: mercomms@aol.com

K4SBZ - Stan Zawrotny, 14243 Turkey Creek Dr., Talahasee FL 32312 e-mail: k4sbz.stan@gmail.com

"Pres" Graham W4FDA SK

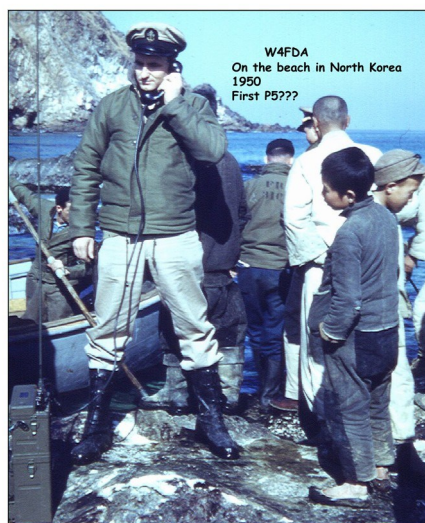
From the Daily DX and forwarded by N4WW:
"The North Florida DX Association regrets to report the passing of one of its founding members after



a long bout with kidney cancer. James Preston Graham, W4FDA, known to his many friends worldwide as 'Pres', died peacefully at his home in Wards Creek, FL November 13 at the age of 93. During World War II Pres served in the Navy aboard a convoy escort destroyer in the North Atlantic. In the Korean War Pres was a Navy forward observer for battleship and cruiser shore bombardment.

Part of this time Pres operated in North Korea, which probably qualifies him as the first "P5". After his military career Pres worked as a television engineer with WJCT TV (PBS) in Jacksonville, FL. In addition to being a mentor to many in NFDXA, Pres was a master DXer and contester who achieved Honor Roll #1 a number of times only dropping 'out of the chase' in recent years when his illness interfered with his operating. He was first licensed in the 1930s.

Pres' ham radio activity during the 1970s and 80s included DXpeditions to Hong Kong, and numerous operations from entities in the Caribbean



W4FDA on the beach in North Korea - 1950

Dick Klein K4GKD/N9CM SK

I am saddened to pass on that we have lost a member of the FCG and I lost a very close friend. Dick passed Friday morning September 19 after a three and a half year fight with cancer.

Dick really enjoyed CW contesting and had a great pair of ears. Dick's logs more often than not were faultless. He finished in the top ten in the CW Low power category in a number of contests. He also won the CQ Marathon year long DX contest for 30Meters. Dick's antenna farm consisted of mainly wire antennas but would boast at times with me that he did have a couple of towers 18 feet high which held a 15m Yagi, TH7DX, and a 4el Quad.

Dick held the following calls; K9OPF, K4GKD, and most recently N9CM. He was first licensed in 1958, joined PVRC in 1968, I met him in 1970. He operated at VP7NA, XV5AC, W4BVV, and W3AU.

Dick had a great sense of humor and a quick wit, and was a very honest and caring person. We could spend hours on the phone or Skyping together. I will surely miss him.

73, Pete N4KW



Dick N9CM holding the plaque for winning the CQ Magazine sponsored DX Marathon on 30 Meters in 2012.

Bruce Savage AA4Z SK

Bruce R. Savage Rincon-died Monday, October 27, 2014 at Hospice Savannah.

The Pittsburgh, PA native was the youngest son of E. Stewart and Georgia Savage.



He graduated from Hume-Fogg High School, where he met the love of his life.

He joined the Navy and served as an aviation electronics technician during the Korean War, receiving an honorable discharge as a petty officer first class.

After the Navy, he married his high school sweetheart and graduated from Vanderbilt University with a degree in electrical engineering.

He retired from Electromagnetic Sciences, Inc., in Atlanta as a vice president and was inducted into the Space Science Hall of Fame for his work there.

Bruce has lived in Clearwater and Gainesville, Fla., Tucker, Ga. and most recently in Rincon for the last 17 years. He has been a member of the Rincon United Methodist Church since relocating here.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Jackie Moore and brother, Stuart Savage.

Bruce was a loving husband, father, and grandfather, as well as a Amateur Radio Enthusiast (AA4Z). He enjoyed sailing, playing the banjo, and amateur photography. Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Ranzie Savage; daughters, Deborah Morrison (David) and Dr. Diane Savage-Pedigo (Dr. Tom); grandchildren, Bailie Marie Pedigo and Jarrod Bruce Pedigo; and several nieces and nephews.

Leon Rediske K9GCF SK

*Adapted from the ORC Newsletter
by Tom Macon, K9BTQ*



Leon Rediske, K9GCF, well known ham and aviator around Milwaukee passed away in on May 4, 2014 in Ft Myers, Florida.

During his high school years Leon got interested in electronics and earned his first amateur radio license in 1957. He attended UW in Madison in 1959, then transferred to Milwaukee Institute of Technology (now MATC) where he earned a degree in broadcast engineering.

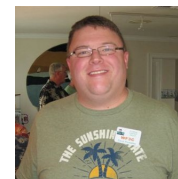
In the late 60's he worked for Allis Chalmers Electronics for several years. Leon's dad, Ed, started Rainbow Airport in Franklin in 1946 and made into a full-time business by 1956. During this time, Leon grew up, became a pilot and learned the airport business. When Ed retired in 1973, Leon bought the business and continued to operate it until 1996 when Rainbow closed permanently.

In addition to his private pilot's license, Leon was a Certified Flight Instructor and A&P aircraft mechanic. He logged over 20,000 hours in the air. After moving to Grafton, Leon continued to fly his Piper Comanche out of Timmerman field and West Bend airport.

Leon was a WARAC member in his earlier years until he took over the airport. After Rainbow closed, he and his wife, Jane (originally KB9SYI, now KK4HQG), moved to Grafton and Leon became active in the Ozaukee Radio Club, where he was a five-term president and Field Day chairman. He was also active with OZARES (Ozaukee Amateur Radio Emergency Services), the Milwaukee Fox Hunter's group and, at their winter home, with the Ft. Myers Amateur Radio Club and the Florida Contest Group.

In recent years he was a regular check-in on the Milwaukee-Florida Net and also the 75-meter Nut Net when he was in Wisconsin.

Was it all flying and amateur radio? No, he and Jane took particular pleasure in their Corvettes (one in Wisconsin, one in Florida) driving them in various events and parades with the Corvette Club.

SS CW 2014 at N4GI*By Chris Plumblee WF3C*

I was pleased to have the opportunity to operate SS CW this year from the Mancave, as the NAQP CW crew calls N4GI's house in Plant City. Blake and I had shared a single radio for a part-time effort in SS CW in 2012 and won the section, but we had not maximized our score. My wife had asked me to come home early on Sunday morning in 2012, so Blake operated as much as he could stand, then turned off the rig and got some teeth pulled, or something equally appealing, rather than endure the Sunday doldrums alone for the balance of our 24 hours.

Earlier this summer, Blake and I had made tentative plans to operate Sweepstakes full-time. I would bring the gear for a second station and we would make a more serious effort. I cleared the entire weekend with my very-understanding wife, and all was set for a major effort. Our hope was that both stations would be approximately equal in terms of receiver selectivity and power output. Station #1 was all of Blake's usual gear, and consisted of a TS590 driving an LK550ZC (purchased from KI2G's estate). The LK550 is a unique amplifier made by Amp Supply in the late 1980's and early 1990's. It uses three 3-500z's, and will achieve 1200-1400w when driven with a 100w exciter, at less than half of the tubes' rated grid current. Station #2 was my IC765 driving N4WW's spare Alpha 76A to 1000w or so. The Alpha was capable of more power output, but given the number of amplifier failures we experienced at N4WW's during CQWW SSB the weekend prior, I thought it was prudent to bring his amplifier back to him in one piece. Blake decided that we would run N1MM Classic for logging software. That turned out to be a prescient decision, as there were some problems with N1MM+ that we avoided.

Our plan was made more complicated over the summer when Blake bought a new house in Plant City, barely a mile from the Mancave. None of the antennas at the Mancave were coming down, but the old house was pretty much empty, with no furniture to speak of. We set the main rig up on a folding table, and the second station on a piece of plywood supported by two sawhorses. Blake brought an air mattress so we would have somewhere more comfortable than our cars to sleep. Of course, when he moved, he did not leave the cable modem connected at the Mancave, so our packet connection would be ad hoc at best.

In the week before the contest, Blake set up the station as much as he could without having the exciter or amplifier for the second station available. He networked the computers and verified that all the antennas were working FB. Our antenna array was unchanged from the last few NAQP contests. Blake has a single 100' Rohn 45 tower, supporting a F12 2-element 40m beam at 108', a C31XR at 100', an 80m inverted vee at 98', a C3 at 60' (that can be stacked with the C31 or split out to the second station), and a 40m dipole (really the driven element from an old Cushcraft 402CD) at 55'. Blake also has an inverted L for 160m, but we weren't concerned with topband for Sweepstakes.

I got over to Blake's at about 1:30 on Saturday afternoon for the 5pm start. I carried in my IC765, Alpha 76A, and a bunch of various cables and wires into the station and started plugging in rigs and connecting antennas. We planned to begin the contest with the main rig on 20m with the stacked tribanders and with the second rig on 40m with the low dipole. We found enough jumpers to interconnect the rig, amplifier, bandpass filter, and wattmeter for the second station, and I sat down to tune the Alpha on 40m. I pre-tuned according to Doc's tuning chart, and sent about three dits at a KW before the SWR shot through the roof. I put the amp in standby and we spent about an hour trying to run down what had happened. We eliminated the antenna switching at the base of the tower, and eventually eliminated the jumpers inside the shack. I connected the output of my rig direct to Blake's dummy load, and the rig's internal SWR meter read $> 5:1$. I feared a problem with the rig, but I was suspicious; my IC765 had been working FB earlier into the 40m antenna, and at my house a few weeks prior. I connected the dummy load to the 2nd antenna output on Blake's TS590, and we found that the dummy load itself had failed and was presenting an open circuit instead of a 50Ω load.

After the debacle with the dummy load, I was convinced that the problem lay with the ½" hardline running between Blake's house and the base of the tower for the second radio. We had just used it in August in NAQP at 100w, but we decided a connector or adapter must have failed at 1000w. Blake and I beat a strategic retreat to the new, improved Mancave to retrieve Blake's MFJ antenna analyzer. With the MFJ, we verified that the antenna was 100% good on the tower. We replaced the 100' run of ½" hardline with 350' of LMR40. Adding 250' of extra coax flattened the SWR out nicely on the second station, but at least the antenna would accept power again. With 30 minutes left before the contest, neither Blake nor I had eaten since the night before. We made what was intended to be a quick run to Fred's, the legendary country-style buffet in Plant City. Of course, we didn't get back until almost 30 minutes after the beginning of the contest.

We started out with me operating station #1 on 20m feeding both tribanders. I searched and pounced without packet assistance down 20m, hoping to grab a clear spot in the less-desirable extra-class portion of the band. For CW SS, I'm not a big believer that being above .025 is much of a benefit, particularly on Saturday. I'd rather have a clear frequency below .025; the Skimmers will spot you quickly anywhere. I landed at 14014 and started a pretty good run.. I handed my decent run off to Blake after about an hour and took over S&P on 40m on station #2. We were soon really cooking with gas, registering a 106 hour in the 2300z hour, followed by hours of 82 and 92. During the 0200z hour, I went to bed while Blake kept going with good rates with only one radio. The rate slowed later in the 0200z hour, and Blake switched to 40m.

I made a tactical mistake by not staying up and facilitating the band change with the second radio, as our overall rate dropped during the 0200z hour to a more pedestrian 56, but Blake was on the right band, as he goosed the rate back up to 76 in the 0300z hour

We kluged together a sort of proto-spotting network while I was sitting at the second station. Either of our smartphones would act as a hotspot, allowing my laptop running VE7CC's CC-Cluster to connect to the internet. However, we could not connect the two logging desktops to the hotspot. We could successfully connect the logging computer at station #2 to the hotspot since it had a wireless card, but then it fell off the logging network. Given the difficulty of connecting and disconnecting, and managing the logs while we did, we just left the DX spots flowing on my laptop and tried to spot by eye when needed sections or new calls zoomed by.

Rates started a steady decline after the 0500z hour, from 58 to 45 to 32. During the 0700z hour, Blake woke me up and I began to oversee the steady decline in rate. 0800z was a 27 hour, and I the first half of the 0900z hour netted 13 QSOs, so I decided we were safe to take some time off. At this time we were missing only VE5 and VT, both of which seemed achievable

I was mindful of the SS wisdom that Sunday rates will never equal Saturday rates, but I didn't want to make the mistake that AD4Z and I did in 2011 and push forward with sub-30 hours overnight. I took about two and a half hours off. I couldn't sleep, but I tried to sit in the chair and relax with the volume turned all the way down for a while, then walked around in the now very cold Mancave. We were heating the ~10'x12' shack with the exhaust from two amplifiers, so Blake had opened the windows in the living room to cool the house down. Of course, overnight temperatures had dropped to freezing levels to a Floridian 50 F, and it was only 62° inside without the heat generated by CQing endlessly.

I got back on the radio during the 1100z hour, working a couple of locals on 80m (our fourth and fifth and last QSOs on 80m during SS) and settling in on 40m to call CQ. The first station to answer my CQ on 40m was VE5ZX. We later worked W1SJ in VT on 20m and had our sweep. We ended up working at least two stations in each section except KP2, KP4, and ND.

Sunday was its normal drag. We split the tribanders so that the lower C3 was available at station #2, and one of us stayed on that station all day working spots as fast as we could. Our high rate on Sunday was 54 during the 1600z hour, split between 24 QSOs on 20m and 30 QSOs on 15m. Rates were in the 40's or 50's until the 1800z hour, when we really started having to work station #2 hard to keep the rate in the 30's. We kept the rate in the mid-30's until the 2200z hour when the rate fell to 28. We decided to push forward since we had very little op time left, and finished the contest with 1188 valid QSOs

Overall I was very pleased with the results. We have claimed the high score in the southeast division, largely since nobody was on from KP2 or KP4 in the multi-op category, and we broke the section record held by K4OJ that had stood since 2003. We worked 32 dupes, which were probably due to bad packet spots for N4ZI or N4GE after I mangled the call sending by hand. We had a number of memorable QSOs. It was nice to work K8AZ with K8NZ at the key, along with K1TO, NX4N, N4KM, K0LUZ, WD4AHZ, K5KG, W4LT, W4TA, K4MM, N4LF, N4OX, NF4A, KP2RUM, and a number of other FCG stalwarts. I had been exchanging score updates with K1TO and K8NZ by text message, and was tuning 20m on the second station when K1TO responded to my score update with one of his own. Simultaneously, I saw him spotted by a Skimmer on 20m, so I hopped on the frequency and sent him our call and exchange at a snappy 42 wpm. We were his first QSO after getting back on the air. He texted me after we finished the QSO, "Skimmer Rules!"

SS CW is definitely an acquired taste. Saturday's rates almost made up for the boredom on Sunday, but having both of us on the radio and motivating each other kept us in the chair for the full 24 hours. Our off-time worked out extremely well from my perspective, as we finished the contest at 6pm local instead of 9pm local. The last couple of hours are always a drag anyway. It was fun to hear the pileups fresh meat guys who jumped on the bands late on Sunday, N5TJ stands out as one who handled the packet hoards without a problem (no great surprise there), while I tuned across more than one op who was struggling to generate any rate, not because of not enough callers but because he had too many

Florida is a pretty good spot for SS, as K0LUZ, W4LT, and others have demonstrated in the past few years. I was pleased to put together a competitive score with Blake. With a smaller antenna farm than many of the other multi-op crews, and a smaller operating crew than any of them, we posted a score that we are proud of and had a really good time doing it. Maybe we'll do the minimalist multi-op again for an NAQP CW again in the future. Thanks to everyone in the FCG who made it into our log, and thanks to N4WW for the loan of his amplifier.

(See pictures next page)

N4GI Pictures



Station # 1



Blake running on 20M



Station # 2

Antenna/Tower Coming Down at W1YL



Dan K1TO and Terry N4TB recently took down the antenna and tower at W1YL prior to Ellen's planned relocation to a new QTH.

CQWW CW Clamed Scores

FLORIDA STATIONS

Call	Score	QSOs	Zns	Cty	Class	Sec	Ops	Hrs	Log RX?
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
AD4ES	4,176,900	2091	161	539	MSABHPa	SFL	+K9ES,N8KH	39.5	Yes
K2PS	473,264	924	44	132	SO10LP	NFL		23	Yes
K3SEN	144,925	276	54	133	SOABLP	NFL		19.9	Yes
K3TW	Did not post to reflector				SO20QRPa	NFL			Yes
K4LM	128,982	221	58	164	SOABHPa	SFL		6.5	Yes
K4LQ	41,283	148	25	74	SO40HPa	WCF			Yes
K4LRP	77,760	203	40	95	SOABLPa	SFL			Yes
K4MM	237,978	514	34	128	SO15HPa	SFL			Yes
K4XS	1,396,592	2563	39	152	SB20HP	NFL			Yes
K9HXO	152,992	276	68	156	SOABLPa	WCF		12.3	Yes
K9IA	Did not post to reflector				SOABLPa	NFL			Yes
K9OM	3,114,213	1600	153	528	SOABHPa	NFL		21	Yes
KN4Y	68,680	250	27	74	SO10LP	NFL		19	Yes
KV4QS	286,440	400	63	185	SOABLPa	SFL		11.3	Yes
KX4TT	Did not post to reflector				SOABLPa	WCF			Yes
N1TO	320,250	443	80	170	SOABLP	SFL		23	Yes
N3GD	107,360	309	33	89	SO20LP	WCF			Yes
N4BP	788,736	1730	35	123	SO10HPa	SFL		24	Yes
N4CJ	704,320	593	124	372	SOABLPa	WCF			Yes
N4CR	28,885	94	38	71	SOABHPa	NFL		5.1	Yes
N4DXI	116,160	188	89	151	SOABHPa	NFL		6	Yes
N4EK	462,016	462	57	199	SOABLP	NFL			Yes
N4FP	59,040	210	53	91	SOABLP	NFL		7	Yes
N4KW	439,203	544	67	214	SOABHP	NFL			Yes
N4LZ	Did not post to reflector				SOABHP	NFL			Yes
N4NSS	177,480	328	100	73	SOABLP	WCF			Yes
N4TB	1,776,888	1200	136	386	SOABHP	WCF			Yes
N4UU	4,929,840	2764	139	476	SOABHPa	NFL		36	Yes
N4WO	479,880	596	73	206	SOABLPa	NFL		14.1	Yes
N4WW	19,818,640	7702	197	723	MMHP	NFL	+K0LUZ,E73M,K3SV	48	Yes
N4WW							N4EEB,K5AUP,Wf3C		
NN4X	1,313,392	708	159	505	SOABHPa	SFL		19.2	Yes
NT4TS	Did not post to reflector				SOABQRP	SFL			Yes
NX4N	87,980	197	51	115	SOABQRP	WCF		5.9	Yes
W1MD	2,300,022	1212	155	514	SOABHPa	SFL		25	Yes
W3CF	1,287,306	817	132	426	SOABHPa	NFL			Yes
W3TMZ	Did not post to reflector				SOABHP	NFL			Yes
W4CU	1,616,624	1071	127	402	SOABHPa	WCF			Yes
W4IR	22,100	116	14	54	SB80HPa	WCF			NO
W4LT	118,584	257	38	124	SOABHPa	WCF			Yes
W4QN	23,192	76	39	65	SOABHPa	SFL		3	Yes
W4ZGR	24,070	103	22	61	SOABQRP	SFL		8	Yes
WB4TDH	400,320	860	35	125	SO10LP	WCF		24	Yes
WC3W	640,762	572	102	319	SOABHPa	SFL			Yes
WD4AHZ	3,077,544	1682	144	502	SOABLPa	WCF			Yes
WO4O	3,903,072	2075	159	495	SOABHPa	NFL			Yes
WX4G	2,116,114	1173	170	467	SOABHPa	WCF		25	Yes

Reported Total = 57,439,789

NON-FLORIDA STATIONS:

Call	Score	QSOs	Zns	Cty	Class	Sec	Ops	Hrs	Log RX?
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
GM4O	285,000	1029	27	98	SB10HP	GM	KQ8Z		Yes
K1TO	9,692,721	5066	152	505	SOABHP	ME	@W1WMU	45	Yes
K4MF	8,160	61	13	35	SOABQRP	GA		18	Yes
KG4LB	3,680,100	3418	106	329	SOABLP	KG4	N6AR		Yes
NP2X	20,720,128	9868	648	226	M2HP	KP2	+K5KG,K1XX,KK9K,NE9U	48 hrs	log yes
3/5 of NP2X score goes toward FCG club total									
HI3A	10,640,997	6021	163	554	MSLP	HI	AD4Z,WP3A,HI3AA,HI3LFE	48 hrs.	log yes

Reported Total = 36,739,055

NP2X Operation— CQWW CW 2014

By George Wagner K5KG



Team Photo with FCG

It all started early in the year when Scott, NE9U told Ron, KK9K that he would like to go on a DXpedition after he retired. Ron called me to see if I had any plans for an offshore contest, and told me about Scott (a W0AIH regular whom I had not met) to see if we could go somewhere for a leisurely, relaxing plug-n-play QTH for CQWW CW this year. My first thought was, no I did not have any current plans, but we could possibly go to J7, Dominica. Every time we go there, it is work, work and more work in preparation for a contest, and going there again would be no different.

Knowing that Fred, K9VV/NP2X, and his XYL, Lisa, W4LIS moved to St. Croix, KP2 a few years ago, I suggested this as a possibility assuming, of course, that we could arrange that with Fred. A phone call to Fred secured the deal, so the planning began. The first chore was to identify our operating team. I grilled Ron about Scott's operating prowess and, after having Scott pass a 13 wpm code test [*sic*], we accepted him to the team trusting that he could truly copy 13 wpm in a real pileup! (Scott proved to be an operating animal!) A discussion with Charlie, K1XX, revealed that he was interested. Since Charlie had been a regular at J7, and a recent op at HK1NA, we did not require him to take the code test, and immediately added him to the team knowing full well that he could handle the piles. Ron and I had spent 3 weeks in E51, so I knew that he could handle piles and was an antenna expert to boot. We had our team: NP2X, KK9K, NE9U, K1XX and

K5KG.

Now that the team had been branded, the usual amount of planning went into our trip: arranging flights, establishing a trip budget, contest strategy, station and antenna planning, etc. Fred told us that this CQWW CW operation will be a maiden voyage for his station and, as such, there will be some antenna work to be done before our arrival, and possibly some after we got there. The station had not yet been configured as a multi-operator set up, so that would be on the list to do when we arrived. A conference call or two with the group helped to ferret out the needs and wants of the team (including pretzels and Mountain Dew for Scott), and give us a good idea of what was in store for us on this maiden voyage. In terms of contest strategy, we decided that a multi-two operation with two run stations and a mult station would be our *modus operandi*. A detailed station/antenna plan document from Fred helped in our planning.

Station configurations were as follows, although we did not make the final decisions as to which rig would be Run1, Run2 and Mult until we were able to assess the physical layout of the shack:

Run1 – Charlie's K3 + Alpha 76

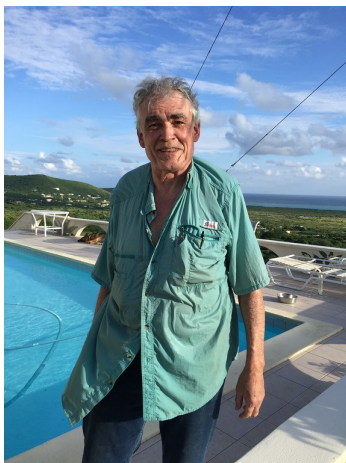
Run2 – Ron's K3 + Fred's Alpha 89

Mult – George's K3 + KPA500/KAT500

Logging software – WinTest, V4.14



NP2X Multi-Two set up



Ron after stringing beverages in the bush

Antenna switching proved to be somewhat of a challenge. Fred's QTH has a variety of yagis, so we brought all feedlines into a 6-Pak, and from there to three Stack Match boxes, one for each of 10m, 15m and 20m. Feedlines for a 160m Inverted L, 80 Inverted V, and 2el 40 yagi were also brought into the 6-Pak, making them available to the two run stations. The mult station was consigned to an A3 triband yagi for the high bands, and an inverted vee and a 4BTV vertical for 40m. On 80m and 160m, antennas were "borrowed" from the run stations when needed.

When we arrived we worked for several days on antennas and station building. One of the chores was to construct a 10m yagi from a boom and elements that were laying in a pile. "Easy, just put it together, here are the instructions", said Fred. With that, Scott (the CPA) and Ron (the antenna expert) proceeded to construct the yagi which, by the way used a beta match. By the end of the second day, it was it was looking good; up on saw horses, and ready for the antenna analyzer. The vswr was high, so for all that evening and into most of the next day, many adjustments were made to the beta match, all dimensions checked and rechecked, but no joy.



Ron and Scott assembling the 10 meter yagi.

Out of desperation, Scott --the-CPA said “ Maybe we should turn the betamatch around”, as it was pointing toward the director elements. Reversing the beta match to point toward the reflector proved to be the answer. The vswr was easily adjusted for a perfect match, and the antenna was hoisted into place as our NA 10m yagi. Lesson learned — trust the advice of your CPA! There were other antenna challenges, not the least of which was stringing wire out for the NA and EU beverages. Fred and Ron bravely took on the task, and after only three hours “in the bush” (read: tangled mess of vines and creepy-crawlers in the jungle), the job was completed shortly before the start of the contest. By the time the contest began, all antennas were installed, fully checked out, and the station configuration was in place.

The operation of the contest went well. There were no equipment failures, and each of the five of us got our fair share of operating time. Charlie chose to be the primary mult operator, and handled those chores like a trooper. After 2.3% dupes, we reported 9868 Q's, 184 zones, 684 countries for a score of 20.7M. Our score broke the all-time high NA M/2 HP Caribbean record set by HI3A in 2007, however (per 3830scores.com), we were aced out in NA by VP2MDX (25.1M) and NP4Z (24.3M), so we are in third place — excellent for the maiden voyage. We were very happy to realize a 5BDXCC in the contest, especially since we made a late push to get the DXCC on 80m, and nailed GD6IA, 8Q7DV, ED9Y, 4X0W and 4O3A in the last hour. Oh, yes, and Scott did consume huge amount of his pretzels and Mountain Dews throughout the event.

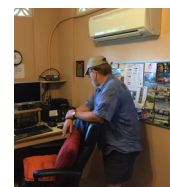


Lunch Photo

A highlight of our KP2 visit was meeting other ops on the island. K3CT and K3TEJ/KP2Q, both of whom are named John Bednar, were there and operating as KP2Q from the home where John, NP2B and Jeannette, NP2C used to live. We met up with both Johns and their XYLs at a nifty little seaside bar for lunch one day. (Ron and Scott, being Wisconsin connoisseurs of finer libations were intrigued by the Blackbeard Ale that they enjoyed, only to find out later that it was brewed in, you guessed it, Wisconsin.) It was a pleasure getting reacquainted with K3CT and K3TEJ since I operated with each of them at K3II years ago when I was in the FRC, and later in J7 with K3TEJ.

KP2M is another familiar contest call, and we had several visits with its owner Phil, KT3Y. Phil's QTH is a well-equipped rental QTH that is nicely situated high on a hillside on the north side of the island, and only a few miles from the ocean. Phil is a very accomplished contester and active PVRC member.

Right: Charlie at Phil's KP2M station



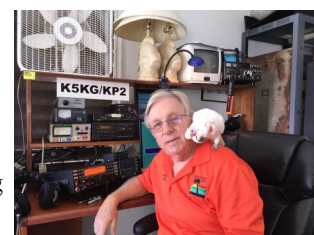
Turkey Dinner

Bob, WP2XX, another accomplished contester, is the brew master at the only craft brewery on St. Croix. Bob treated our team to rounds of his favorite brews during our visit to his pub located on the docks.

CQWW CW in the USA would not be complete without celebrating Thanksgiving. Fred and Lisa arranged for our team to join them at a seaside restaurant for a unique Turkey Dinner to beat all turkey dinners. Phil, KP2M joined us for the fun. The uniqueness of the Turkey Dinner was that each table was served its own complete turkey adorned with all the trimmings family style. In advance of being served, we warmed our bellies with plentiful helpings of island rum drinks, for which we “gave thanks”.

Below: K5KG and Sydney

This article would not be complete without mentioning that a stay with Fred and Lisa is a real pleasure. Their beautiful home is located high on a hill near the south shore about a mile and a quarter from the ocean. Certainly a highlight was getting to know their incredible menagerie of 8 cats, 5 birds and 4 dogs. As we worked on the antennas before the contest, we were usually trailed by at least one or more dogs that were hoping to be petted. A real treat was when Fred would bring two of the birds outside for our obligatory DXpedition photo shoots.



In summary, it was a successful maiden voyage for Fred's station, although not without a significant amount of work on the part of Fred and many others to make it happen. Fred is working on improvements to equipment layouts and antenna access for multiple operating positions. And, for our team, it was our pleasure to be a part of the christening of Fred's fantastic NP2X station.

Extra information						
Summary						
BAND	QSO	CQ	DXC	DUP	POINTS	AVG
160	161	11	35	8	341	2.12
80	829	30	102	15	2027	2.45
40	1868	31	108	46	4802	2.57
20	1845	38	135	30	4555	2.47
15	2907	39	141	72	7514	2.58
10	2258	35	135	59	5677	2.51
TOTAL	9868	184	656	230	24916	2.52
FINAL SCORE: 20 929 440						

ARRL 10 Meter Contest - Claimed Scores

FLORIDA STATIONS

Call	Score	QSOs	Mults	Class	Sec	Ops	HRs
AA4HP	1,215,622	1686	231	MSHP	SFL		
AC2N	5,088	152	505	SOCWQRP	NFL		5.25
AD4Z	Not reported to reflector			SOCQRP	SFL		
K0LUZ	893,228	1387	161	SOCWHP(A)	NFL		19.5
K1HG	2,088	36	29	SOPHLP	NFL		1
K1TO	1,646,720	2656	155	SOCWHP	WCF		
K2PS	1,201,440	1624	249	SOMIXLP	NFL		25
K3SEN	96,660	264	65	SOCWLP	NFL		
K3SV	258,792	526	123	SOCWLP(A)	WCF		11
K3TW	Not reported to reflector			SOMIXQRP	NFL		
K4ADR	264,228	503	?	SOMIXLP(A)	SFL		
K4DMH	45,390	255	?	SOPHLP	NFL		9.5
K4FCG	153,504	656	117	SOPHLP	NFL	K1KNQ	11.75
K4LM	105,860	208	158	SOMIXHP(A)	SFL		4.75
K4LQ	226,872	11	118	SOCWHP(A)	WCF		15
K4LRP	208,302	423	149	SOPHHP(A)	SFL		
K4MF	Not reported to reflector			SOMIXHP	NFL		
K4XS	1,969,560	2971	180	SOPHHP(A)	NFL		32
K5KG	165,200	327	140	SOMIXHP	WCF		
K9ES	63,360	208	80	SOMIXHP(A)	SFL		
K9HXO	93,280	275	88	SOCWLP	NFL		11
K9IA	Not reported to the reflector			SOMIXLP(A)	NFL		
K9OM	1,482,480	1605	261	SOMIXLP(A)	NFL		27
KD4ACG	Not reported to reflector			SOPHLP(A)	NFL		
KE1F	130,386	366	97	SOCWHP	NFL		
KJ3Q	18,360	135	68	SOPHLP(A)	SFL		
KK4DZP	151,640	350	170	SOMIXLP(A)	NFL		13.25
KM4HI	158,424	427	62	SOMIXLP	NFL		
KN4Y	141,856	341	104	SOCWLP	NFL		
KT4Q	13,032	81	47	SOMIXLP	NFL		
KV4QS	400+			SOMIXLP	SFL		
KX4TT	63,400	185	100	SOMIXHP(A)	WCF		
N1TO	184,620	543	85	SOCWLP	SFL		
N3GD		285		SOCWLP	WCF		
N4BP	1,290,000	2150	180	SOCWHP(A)	SFL		
N4EEB	314,760	610	129	SOCWLP(A)	NFL		
N4EK	49,416	174	71	SOCWLP	NFL		
N4FP	211,314	476	111	SOCWHP	NFL		11.3
N4LF	114,648	281	102	SOCWLP(A)	SFL		4.5
N4TB	1,036,000	1750	148	SOCWHP	WCF		
N4UU	1,879,960	2143	257	SOMIXHP(A)	NFL		
N4WW	919,920	1698	135	SOCWLP	NFL	N4KM	
N6AR	426,144	772	138	SOCWHP	NFL		
N6BM	34,916	203	86	SOMIXLP(A)	WCF		
N8PR	112,200	424	61	SOPHHP(A)	SFL		
NG4L	Not reported to reflector			SOPHLP	WCF		
NJ2F	262,600	1030	130	SOPHHP	SFL		
W4ZGR	33,640	145	58	SOCWQRP	SFL		
WA8QYJ	105,056			SOPHLP	SFL		
WB4MM	Not reported to reflector			SOPHLP	NFL		
WB4MNM	Not reported to reflector			SOCWLP	NFL		
WB4TDH	639,938	1244	128	SOCWLP	WCF		
WC3W	Not reported to reflector			SOMIXHP(A)	SFL		
WC4H	Not reported to the reflector			SOMIXHP	SFL		
WD4AHZ	698,500	1125	133	SOCWLP	WCF		

NON-FLORIDA STATIONS

GM4O	231,544	563	103	SOCWLP	GM	KQ8Z
NP2X	3,789,930	4046	285	SOMIXHP(A)	VI	K9VV

HF Contesting—Good Practices, Interpretations & Conditions

By George Wagner K5KG



The ARRL has published a revision to HF Contesting Guidelines. The revision is a 2014 update of a previous version written by the ARRL Contest Advisory Committee (CAC) at least five years ago. The revisions, done by a team of CAC members (K5KG, N3BB, K3WW, W1UE), were undertaken to address changes in technology that have affected contesting in recent years, and to present a current understanding of contesting standards and practices. Additionally, sections of the previous document were rewritten and reorganized to improve readability.

The goal of this document is to provide guidance and advice, especially for new contesters, and to encourage contest operation that advances the spirit and integrity of radiosporting. The materials presented are facts, opinions and best practices. Information presented in the document is not mandatory and the individual contest operator is free to accept or reject its wisdom. In all cases, contest rules take precedence, so the collective advice is to always read, understand and follow the contest rules in both the letter and spirit of the rules. The document is organized into these chapters:

- Pre-Contest
- Post-Contest
- Operation During the Contest
- Interacting with Other Contesters
- Interacting with Non-Contesters
- Spotting and Use of Spots
- Soliciting QSOs – Single Band Entries
- Remote Stations (a new chapter)
- Additional Contesting Resources (a new chapter)

The document presents frequently asked questions and answers and additional material about common situations encountered in HF contesting, also known as radiosporting. The questions and responses address HF contesting only. VHF+ contesting is not addressed, as there are many differences in the way HF and VHF+ contests are conducted.

HF Contesting Guidelines can be accessed on the ARRL web site at <http://www.arrl.org/contest-toolbox-tutorials>. A PDF version of the document is available on the web site for download.

George Wagner, K5KG

Report to America Late Breaking News

Art Goddard, W6XD, began an initiative a few years ago to encourage the ARRL to be proactive in making the public and government officials alike aware of the value of amateur radio as an asset to our communities and government bodies by publishing an annual "Report to America". At the 2014 FCG Banquet Art presented a thumbnail of the Report to America initiative to our FCG group, and made a full presentation the next day at the Orlando Hamfest.

Building on Art's tireless work on this initiative and the involvement of ARRL Southwestern Director, Dick Norton, N6AA, for his role in getting the ARRL Board to move forward on this initiative, The ARRL has just published its first report. It is titled: **Amateur Radio: Science and Skill in Service to Your Community**, and can be found on the ARRL web site at:

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Advocacy/AR-ScienceAndSkill-2014.pdf>

According to Art, this report is an excellent start. It highlights in a qualitative way the contributions ham radio has made to events in many parts of the country, including the 2013 Boston Marathon, 2014 Arkansas tornados, 2013 New Mexico wildfires, and 2013 Colorado flooding, to name a few. Art expressed to me that he hopes that future reports will contain actual data compiled from ARES and other reporting to quantify the volunteer hours and equipment value provided by Amateur Radio to benefit the public.

One specific initiative regarding the importance of documenting, reporting and collecting hard data about public service activities is this item in a recent ARRL E-Letter by Rick Palm, K1CE:

<http://www.arrl.org/ares-el?issue=2015-01-21#toc01>

I encourage each of you to read the ARRL report and Rick's article and pass along your comments to Sean Kutsko, skutzko@arrl.org, Rick Palm, k1ce@arrl.net, Art Goddard at w6xd@ca.rr.com or directly to me, georgek5kg@aol.com. 73, George Wagner, K5KG

West Central Florida Gets New ARRL Section Manager

In the West Central Florida Section, Darrell Davis, KT4WX, of Fort Meade, will be the new SM starting in the New Year. He was the only candidate for the position. Davis brings to the office his experience as an Assistant Section Manager, ARES Emergency Coordinator, and Technical Specialist. He will succeed Dee Turner, N4GD, of Pinellas Park, who chose not to run for another term after serving since 2005.



Contesting Hall of Famer Carl D. Cook, AI6V/P49V, SK

Well-known Contester, DXer, and DXpeditioner Carl Cook, AI6V/P49V (ex-WA6JUD), of Las Vegas, Nevada, died December 15. An ARRL Life Member, he was 74. Despite getting a rather late start, Cook went on to enjoy considerable success in Amateur Radio, and even casual DX contesters had P49V in their logs.



On his QRZ.com web page, Cook recounted how he got into Amateur Radio in the 1970s, when he was 38, after installing an HF radio on his boat. He began listening on VHF, discovered VHF/UHF contesting, and got his Technician license. After upgrading to General in 1975, he enjoyed ARRL November Sweepstakes with the Northern California Contest Club, for which he also served a term as president.

In time Cook developed into a world-class contester, and his operations from Aruba put Zone 9 into many logbooks. He said the highlight of his years in Amateur Radio was being named to the CQ Contest Hall of Fame in 1997. Cook was on the DXCC Honor Roll and held 5 band DXCC

St.Nicholas in Action



HO, HO, HO from OH, OH, OH! With Rami OH2BCI filling in for St Nicholas on the key, 23,000 QSOs were made from Santa's offices at the Finnish Arctic Circle. The OF9X effort included more than twenty OH operators and their families. High-tech remote was used to capture the Polar Path on 20 meters from Lapland. Santa was often the only signal audible on 20 meters from Europe as hundreds of children around the world were able to greet Santa directly thru video/audio streaming. (Thanks, Martti OH2BH) and ARRL Contest Update.

CQWW SSB Contest - Claimed Scores

Call	Score	QSOs	Zones	Cty	Class	Sec	Ops	HRs
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FLORIDA STATIONS

AD4ES	2,695,792	1,730	130	444	MSHP	SFL	+K9ES, K4QD, N6KH, K4FIT, K4IMB, KE4YGT	46.5
K0LUZ	1,101,793	854	104	357	SOABHP(A)	NFL		17
K1HG	Did not post score to reflector				SOABLP	NFL		
K2PS	42,336	236	34	76	SOABLP	NFL		4
K3SEN	87,265	213	43	112	SOABLP	NFL		21
K4LM	1,176,200	919	111	349	SOABHP(A)	SFL		18
K5KG	1,252,818	1020	102	365	SOABHP(A)	WCF		13.5
K9IA	6,800	69	9	31	SO10LP	NFL		2.3
K9OM	Did not post score to reflector				SOABLP	NFL		
KA4SFD	Did not post score to reflector				SOABLP (A)	WCF		
KD4ACG	Did not post score to reflector				SOABLP (A)	WCF		
KT4Q	16,259	66	34	53	SOABHP(A)	NFL		7
KV4QS	82,149	205	34	104	SOABLP(A)	SFL		
KX4TT	45,612	137	90	56	SOABLP	WCF		
N1TO	384,540	514	68	192	SOABHP(A)	SFL		
N2ESP	Did not post score to reflector				SOABLP(A)	WCF		
N4CR	42,458	100	51	91	SOABHP(A)	NFL		
N4DL	Did not post score to reflector				SO20LP	WCF		
N4DXI	58,056	176	116		SOABHP(A)	NFL		
N4EK	217,007	371	44	159	SOABLP	NFL		
N4UU	300,698	416	62	189	MSABHP(A)	NFL	+N4TUU	
N4WO	72,576	179	41	103	SOAABLP	NFL		
N4WW	8,832,927	4,277	165	597	MSHPAB(A)	NFL	+WF3C, N4KM, K3SV	
N6AR	3,479,688	2,164	132	426	SOABHP(A)	NFL		
N4GL	Did not post score to reflector				SOABLP	WCF		
NJ2F	Did not post score to reflector				SOABHP	SFL		
NN4X	Did not post score to reflector				SOABHP(A)	SFL		
NT4TS	Did not post score to reflector				SOABQRP	SFL		
NZ1Q	Did not post score to reflector				SOABHP	WCF		
W3CF	Did not post score to reflector				SOABHP(A)	NFL		
W4GV	Did not post score to reflector				SO10HP	NFL		
W4JS	Did not post score to reflector				SOABHP	WCF		
W4LT	241,080	470	58	138	SOABHP(A)	WCF		
W4LWZ	Did not post score to reflector				SOABHP	SFL		
W4QN	Did not post score to reflector				SOABH(A)	SFL		
WB4EH	Did not post score to reflector				SOABLP(A)	SFL		
WB4MM	Did not post score to reflector				SOABLP(A)	NFL		
WB4OMM	34,680	130	30	73	SO20QRP	NFL		
WC3W	Did not post score to reflector				SOABHP(A)	SFL		

NON-FLORIDA STATIONS

C6ASP	130,764	640	23	71	B40LP	C6A	W6KW	
GM4O		647	22	73	SO10LP	GM	KQ8Z	
HK1NA	45,939,188	17,896	185	689	MMHP	HK	AD4Z, K1XX, K1MM	48
NP2X	8,717,133	6260	132	409	MSABHP(A)	KP2	K1TO, K9VV	33
PJ4X	27,242,343	12341	164	583	M2HP(A)	PJ4	K1QX, W1MD	48

FCG Meeting Orlando 2015

By Fred Perkins K4LQ



Luncheon meeting attendees included members AD4ES, AF4Z, K0LUZ, K1CC, K1KNQ, K1MM, K1RQ, K1TO, K1XX, K4IMB, K4LQ, K5AUP, K5KG, K8MR, K9ES, KA4JRY, KA4SFD, KE1F, KE4YGT, KK4DZP & XYL, KM4HI, KT8TD, KU8E, N1MM, N4EK & KD4BRJ, N4FP & WB2VYK, N4FY, N4LZ & XYL, N4RAT, N4UU & N4TUU, N4WO, N6AR, NX4N, VO1MP, W1MD, W1RG, W4LT & XYL, W4UH, WA4OAB, WF3C and WX4CAZ, along with guests K4BAI, KU8E and SP4Z.

Additional members spotted at the dinner included AD4Z, HI3AA, K1PT, K2DM, K2PS, K3VN, K4AUP, K4GRD, K4JC, K4MM, K4QD, K4XS & WH7YL, K7BV, K7JA, KC4HW, KJ3Q, KV4QS, N4CR, N4DL, N4GI, N4KW, N4WW, N8PR, ND8L, NN4X, NP2X & W4LIS, W2TX, W4ABC, W4AS, W4DAS, W4DII, W4GKA, W4TAA, W5SJ, W8HO, WA6POZ, WB4OMM, WN4R and WO4D.

Spotted at the Hamfest, but not at either club event, were K4WJ, KC4C, KW3Y, W4QN

Dan opened the meeting by wishing all of the YLs attending a Happy Valentine's Day. He then thanked the officers for their efforts on the club's behalf, detailing the excellent contributions of WF3C, K4LQ, K5KG and WD4AHZ.

He asked each attendee to identify themselves, comment on the dinner if they attended, and announce their plans for the upcoming contests – ARRL DX, WPX and FQP. As usual, the FQP will have the heaviest level of participation, but many enjoy the other four major events.

Dan then recounted WRTC-2014. He reminded everyone that the FCG had a huge hand by virtue of club donations to sponsor tents, as well as manpower. K1TO was the Director of Team and Referee Selection and a member of the Judging Committee. FCG competitors (all first-timers) were: K9VV/NP2X (who finished an impressive 5th with teammate and past winner VE3EJ), AD4Z and W4UH, and K8MR. FCG referees were NF4A, CX7TT, OM6NM, plus K4BAI and SP4Z who attended the luncheon. WRTC Site Support Volunteers included NX4N, W1MD, K5KG, W7SE and N8PR. Our speaker last night K0DQ was also a first-time competitor.

WRTC Competitor Sandy, DL1QQ, the first ever YL to qualify on her own accord, will be visiting Florida in March and several meet-and-greet gatherings will likely be scheduled

A new source of FQP plaques has been found. Plaques are less expensive, and now have a white background, multi-color FCG Logo, Florida State Seal and county map. Dan, or the plaque sponsor if present, awarded these new FQP plaques to those attendees who had earned them in the 2014 FQP. Certificates which had been handed out at prior luncheons are now being issued electronically as .PDFs.

Examining the QSO totals from the last 4 FQPs: 2011 - 100,000, 2012 - 125,000, 2013 - 150,000, 2014 - 100,000. The increase in QSOs in 2012 and 2013 was a result of adding 1X1 callsigns to spell out "Florida QSO Party" and "FLORIDA". Adding such incentives is a great way to boost participation and fun for all, so we are looking at spelling "ORANGE" and maybe adding "JUICE" for the upcoming 2015 running.

The FCC mandates a club vote to change club callsign locations. K4OJ is now listed at the W1YL QTH, but the trustee is N4KM. A vote was taken on allowing the address to be modified to N4KM's and the change was passed unanimously.

Fred K4LQ's Treasurer's Report : Current membership is 300. Signed up three new members this weekend, HI3AA, KE4YGT and N4RAT. One year ago membership was 286. Dues Situation - After collections this weekend I expect we will have just over 50 members with unpaid dues. I will try to follow up with those members. The dues paying window will close at the end of March. Treasury - At an all time high of \$3406.03. Some dinner bills remain to be paid. Newsletter - Will input the Orlando information as soon as possible with a proposed publishing date of late February or early March.

Thanks to Dan K1TO for his usual fine editing job on this report.

73/Fred K4LQ

Events Calendar

CQWW WPX SSB Contest. 0000Z Mar 28 to 2400Z Mar 29.

Florida QSO Party. 1600z, Apr. 25 to 2159Z. April 26 and 1200Z -2159Z Apr 26

CQ WW WPX Contest, CW 0000Z May 30 to 2359Z May 31

ARRL June VHF Contest 1800Z June 13 to 0259Z June 15

All Asian DX Contest, CW, 0000Z June 20 to 2400Z June 21

Contest Dinner



SP4Z
N6EY
K0DQ
WY7YL



HI8RD, HI3AA,
AD4Z, SP4Z



K5KG

N4GI, WF3C



Wayne N4FP chats
with Scott K0DQ





Above: W4LIS, NP2X, K4UU, KB4KCV



Above: NN4X, , K1KNQ, K4XS, WH7YL, XYL W4LT



WB4OMM, KU8E, K4BAI, W4PA, Not Identified



Not Identified, K4IMB, K9ES, AD4ES, Not Identified



N4TUU, N4UU, K4MM, K1PT, N4GI,



NP2X, SP4Z.



K5KG, K1CC



KC4HW



N4MB, SP4Z,
KJ3Q



W4AS, N8PR,
N4KW



WY7YL. , K7JA

N4FY
KK4DZP



Relaxing a bit, K1TO



SP4Z, VO1MP



SP4Z, WB4OMM



The FQP Banner was posted behind the dais.



Right; Dan K1TO greets our Speaker Scott K0DQ



Scott K0DQ addresses dinner group.



Left: Lisa W4LIS volunteered to pull the winning lottery tickets from the box for all but the Grand Prize .

Bill K4XS sponsored the FQP Rookie Plaque which was won by KA4SFD. Right: L-R KA4SFD , K4XS, WH7YL



Left: Dan K1TO greets Dennis K7BV representing YAESU who sponsored the Grand Prize for the lottery.

Right: K7BV'sXYL Lieska selects winner of the Grand Prize Yaesu Radio



Left: Lisa W4LIS accepts the certificate for the Yaesu FTDX-1200 Grand Prize from Denny K7BV.

Orlando FCG Luncheon Meeting



K4LQ, WF3C, K1TO

W4LT and XYL



AF4Z

KM4HI, N4LS and XYL



Left L K0LUZ



Above: Luncheon Group



W4UH

Foreground

K1RQ and XYL



NX4N's Brother Matt, N6AR



VO1MP.. W1RG



K0LUZ, NX4N



WA8QYJ, N4TUU, N4UU, N4EK, KD4BRJ



KU8E, K4BAI



Who else? George K5KG.



KE1F



K1TO Presents Plaque to K5KG



K4LQ



W4UH



WF3C



NX4N, K0LUZ



K1KNQ



K1XX, W1MD, K9ES



N4LZ, N4TUU, N4UU



Left: L-R
AD4ES
K9ES
K4IMB



KU8E,
K4BAI

Picture
of New FQP Plaque



ARRL DX SSB Contest - Claimed Scores

FLORIDA STATIONS:

Call	Score	QSOs	Mults	Class	Sec	Ops	HRs
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
K0LUZ	729,540	772	315		SOABHPa	NFL	12
K1KNQ	1,860,990	1513	410		SOABLPa	NFL	35.5
K1PT	Did not report to reflector				SOABHPa	SFL	
K2PS	189,567	357	177		SOABLPa	NFL	13
K3SEN	104,520	260	134		SOABHP	NFL	12.6
K3SV	108,000	250	144		SOABLPa	WCF	
K4JC	217,536	412	176		SOABLP	SFL	11
K4LM	718,704	744	322		SOABHPa	SFL	12
K4LRP	143,148	302	158		SOABLPa	SFL	
K4MM	7,728	56	46		SOABHPa	SFL	
K4SBZ	43,416	135	108		SOABLPa	NFL	
K4SXT	429,000	550	260		SOABLP	SFL	24
K4XS	1,412,760	1220	386		SOABHPa	NFL	12
K5KG	482,517	621	259		SOABHPa	WCF	8.5
K5KG	482,517	621	259		SOABHP	WCF	8.5
K8MR	4,725	45	35		SOABQRP	WCF	2
K9OM	43,800	200	73		SB40m NFL		
KA4SFD	783,873	753	347		SOABHPa	NFL	13
KD2JA	727,668	697	348		SOABHPa	SFL	
KE1F	16,896	88	64		SOABHPa	NFL	
KM3U	32,805	135	81		SOABLP	WCF	
N1TO	1,039,416	1076	322		SOABHPa	SFL	28
N4BP	31,212	102	102		SB10Ma	SFL	
N4DL	129				SOABLPa	WCF	
N4EK	201,600	420	160		SOABLP	NFL	
N4FP	4,464	48	31		SOABHP	NFL	3
N4FY	3,654	42	29		SOABHP	NFL	1
N4LZ	17,526	127	46		SB10m NFL		4.5
N4WW	2,131,686	1640	437		SOABHPa	NFL	
N4WZ	Did not report to reflector				SOABHP	SFL	
N6AR	1,315,248	1166	376		SOABHPa	NFL	17
N8PR	271,410	418	218		SOABHPa	SFL	8
NJ2F	Did not report to reflector				SOABHP	SFL	
NN4X	1,115,136	1026	363		SOABHPa	SFL	17.8
NT4TS	Did not report to reflector				SOABQRP	SFL	
W1MD	1,333,296	1191	376		SOABHPa	SFL	25
W3CF	604,434	771	262		SOABHPa	NFL	20
W4/M0BUE	35,604	172	69		SOABLPa	WCF	
W4CU	511,221	713	239		SOABHPa	WCF	
W4JS	25,137	169	49		SB10m	WCF	4.3
W4LT	263,088	464	189		SOABHPa	WCF	
WA6POZ	16,380	105	52		SOABHPa	NFL	10
WB4MM	36,708	133	92		SOABLP	NFL	
WB4OMM	100,788	227	148		SOABLPa	NFL	5.5
WD4AHZ	45,390	170	89		SOABLP	WCF	4
WX4G	2,170,145	1880	385		SOABHPa	WCF	28
TOTAL =	19,813,253						

PANHANDLE & NON-FLORIDA STATIONS:

Call	Score	QSOs	Mults	Class	Sec	Ops	HRs
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
NP2X	8,106,003	8263	327		MSHP	KP2	+K1DG,WP2XX48
WP2MLL	5,756,940	6092	315		SOABLP	VP2M	K1XX 44

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