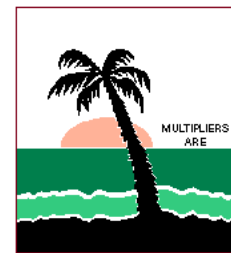




Contest Gazette

Florida Contest Group



www.qsl.net/fcg/ or www.fcg.club

Volume 9 Issue 6

October 2002

From the President's Corner

By Dan Street, K1TO

Here we are hours away from CQWW SSB! Everybody ready? Ladies and gentlemen, start your transceivers! Don't be deterred by predictions of less than perfect conditions. We in Florida actually benefit from such conditions. Be the envy of all of W/VE by working the DX that they are not able to!



For those who missed the discussion, we have dedicated our operations for Sweepstakes this year in the memory of Paul Knupke, Jr., N4PK. Also, Fred is taking personal donations towards the memorial scholarship fund in Paul's name and also, the FCG will be sponsoring a plaque for SS SSB, one of Paul's favorite contests. Several FCG members attended Paul's wake and I can personally attest to the overwhelming support from all his family and friends. Age 31 is way too young to pass along and it should remind us all to live each and every day to its fullest. RIP, Paul.

Realizing that I never publicly thanked the FCG membership for their terrific support for reelecting me as President, I'll take this small space to do so. I am still having a blast with this. The FCG and FQP are examples of constructive, positive growth in our sub-hobby and I'm just thrilled to be a part of it.

Thanks again to K9ES and Sylvia for hosting us in Melbourne and K4XS and Holly for hosting our October meeting. It's encouraging to see that our members still enthusiastically show up for meetings, now that the ARRL mandatory meeting requirement has been lifted. Of course, the opportunity to taste the sumptuous offerings and see (3) 199.999 foot towers have absolutely nothing to do

with it – right?! See elsewhere in this issue for full write-ups on the meetings and stay tuned on the reflector for final arrangements for the next meeting – to be held east of Orlando near the UCF campus on November 9th or 10th.

Welcome aboard to the latest group of new members. Kevin, K4PG rejoins us after a short hiatus. "KB" is maybe best known for his VFB mobile efforts in the FQP with N4BP. Roxy, W1ROX is learning lots about contesting from the Field Day crowd at NJ4M and particularly from a real smooth talking (and sending) pro, WD4AHZ. Jim, KC4HW is well known in the RTTY circles and will help our increasing presence on that mode. Jim will also be at K9ES' place this weekend for WW SSB. VE7ZO, our latest joiner, just happened to finish 5th in Finland a few months ago along with VE3EJ. Jim is taking the fast track of immersion into FCG big station operations by doing WW SSB with the N4TO gang, then piloting the biggest station of them all at

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K4XS for SS CW, then joining the K4OJ crew for WW CW!

It was great to hear the FCG on-the-air support in the Scandinavian Activity Contests this year. My memories of that area of the world are indelible and the hams up there are something special. It looks like we also did real well as a club in the California QSO Party and may have a shot at their first-time out-of-state club plaque.

On a personal note, Mother Nature has temporarily stonewalled my new tower by keeping the water table too high. Nonetheless, the yagi revamping has continued and at least 20 & 15 should be in decent shape here soon on the existing tower.

See you on the air, in Orlando in a few weeks, and at the FL State Convention in Palmetto in Dec! And don't forget to sign up for the Contest Buddy Program as an Elmer, an Elmo, or both! HAVE FUN AND GO FCG!!

vy 73, Dan

Fred K4LQ captures several "Big Guns" in action at El Castillo de San Marcos in St. Augustine! We expect to hear similar action in CQWW SSB shortly!



Welcome Aboard



128 K4PG Kevin M. Bunin, 3307 Lakeview Dr, Delray Beach FL 33445 e-mail: k4pg@arrl.net

129 W1ROX Roxena Doyle, P. O. Box 845, Osprey FL 34229 e-mail: w1rox@juno.com

130 KC4HW Jim Johnson, 1890 Hogan Drive, Melbourne FL 32935 e-mail: jim@kc4hw.net

131 VE7ZO James Roberts, 4522 W. Kennedy Blvd. Suite 111, Tampa FL 33609 e-mail: ve7zo@tampabay.rr.com

New Calls: Tom **AE4RO** is now **K4MM**
 John **AE4SW** is now **W4IX**
 Terry **NP3G** is now **N4TB**

Ed. Note: The SK notice below is from the ARRL Letter, used by permission

Paul Knupke Jr. N4PK - SK

Paul Knupke Jr, N4PK, SK: Paul Knupke Jr, N4PK, of Largo, Florida, died unexpectedly September 24. He was 31. The cause of death has not been determined. An ARRL Life Member, Knupke was an Assistant Section Manager and Webmaster for the West Central Florida Section. He also was president of the Tampa Bay Hamfest, president of the Florida Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Council and District 4 Director for the Florida Repeater Council. He was a past president of the Clearwater Amateur Radio Society and served as its secretary, Webmaster and newsletter editor. "He was an active contester and had a real passion for Amateur Radio," said West Central Florida Section Manager Dave Armbrust, AE4MR, who called Knupke "one of Amateur Radio's shining stars." Survivors include his father, Paul E. Knupke, K4PEK. Knupke's family invites contributions in his memory to the Paul Knupke Jr Memorial Scholarship Fund, in care of Alan J. Pickering, 720 N Shore Boulevard NE, St Petersburg, FL 33701-2623.

SAC Contests Claimed Scores

SAC CW CONTEST

CALL	QSOS	MULTS	SCORE
K1TO	410	137	78,090 LP
K5KG	346	124	61,008 HP
N4BP	332	124	53,320 HP
WC4E	233	107	36,630 HP
N2NL	184	86	23,736 HP + Packet
NF4A	134	71	10,366 LP
K9ES	77	52	6,974 LP
W4SAA	54	42	4,326 LP
W4EBA	68	37	2,516 LP
W4ZW	30	20	580 LP
N4OO	54		

SAC SSB CONTEST

NF4A	79	55	6,215 LP
K9ES	65	44	3,476 LP
K1TO	71	44	3,124 LP
N2NL	44	31	2,046 LP
K4LOG	19	13	247 LP SOSB/20

CQ/RJ RTTY Claimed Scores

CALL	QSOS	State/Prov	DX	ZONES	SCORE	
N4IG	908	122	233	85	993,520	SOABLP
N2NL	650	118	187	77	556,956	SOABLP
K4LQ	467	75	185	75	401,840	SOABHP
N4GI	650	118	120	53	187,920	SOABLP
K4MM	236	45	108	51	122,808	SOABLP
KB4N	74	60	23		15,853	SOAB LP
KB4ET	417					

W4SAA Top USA in WAG

The TOP scorer for the USA in last year's Worked All Germany contest, with 423 CW QSOs, 1269 Phone QSOs and 88 Mults for a final score of 111672, beating out such luminaries as N4AF, K2SX, AA3B and K3ZO was...

JOE, W4SAA

Congrats, Joe!!

FCG Election Results

Here are the results of the election. I have certified the below and there will be no re-counts. hi hi ;-)

Winner % Of Votes Cast

President: K1TO 100%

VP-FCG: K5KG 60.4%

VP-FQP: WD4AHZ 100%

Sec-Treas: K4LQ 100%

NF4A and N2NL also received votes for the VP-FCG position

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Ulysses Rodriguez - NS4W

California QSO Party Claimed Scores

Call	Mode	CW	SSB	Mult	Score
N4PN	SOABLPMD	311	568	58	120.002
K4FCG	SOABLPMD	210	408	58	83,868
NF4A	SOABLPMD	208	368	58	78,880
W4SAA	SOABLPMD	289	249	56	76,440
N4IG	SOABLPMD	232	201	56	61,488
KN4Y	SOABLPMD	269	0	49	39,543
K5KG	SOABLPMD	129	162	55	39,105
K1PT	SOABLPMD	147	142	53	38,425
N2NL	SOABLPMD	100	100	47	23,400
K4LQ	SOABHPCW	174	0	47	22,446
W4YA	SOABLPMD	100	0	37	11,100
N4GI	SOABLPMD	57	30	33	7,623
K4LW	SOABLPMD	85	0	28	7,140
W4ZW	SOABLPMD	49	0	28	4,116
W4EBA	SOABLPSSB	0	50	31	3,720
K4LOG	SOABLPSSB	0	52	31	3,224
K9ES/M	49 QSOS				

Club Total 500,638

Melbourne Hamfest Meeting

First of all the following folks were seen in action at Melbourne: either at the luncheon at Franco's, the meeting at K9ES, or at the hamfest itself. AD4Z, K0LUZ, K1TO, K4LQ, K4LW & Charlotte, K4MM & Ingrid, K4OJ & Teresa, K4PG, K4XS & Holly, K9AW, K9ES, KD4BRJ, KE1F, KK4TA, KU4TF, N2NL, N4BP, N4DL, N4EK, N4GI, N4JT, N4TO, N8PR, NA4CW, ND4AA, NS4W, W1ROX, W4GM, W4IR, W4IX & Melissa, W4QM, W4SAA, WC4H, WD4AHZ.

It was great to meet a number of folks who were attending their first meeting and/or luncheon. This included Julio AD4Z, Red K0LUZ, Gary K9AW, and Carl WC4H.

The Hamfest itself seemed a bit smaller this year, with fewer commercial distributors and tailgate activity than last year.

Lots of camaraderie and telling of tall contest tales at Franco's. Notable comment from K4XS when his pizza was inadvertently served to another attendee by mistake: "QRZ is this pizza in use?" Took a lot of pictures of the action for the October Gazette.

30 people signed the attendance roster at Eric K9ES's QTH where lots of delicious dessert goodies were laid out in the dining room for consumption while or/after the meeting being held in the living room.

Dan K1TO began the meeting by thanking Eric for his hospitality.

We went around the room with everyone identifying him/herself and their favorite contests. A lot of diversity in the contest choices, with the CQWWW CW and/or SSB probably leading the pack.

Dan introduced guest Jim Johnson, KC4HW from the Florida Boys Contest Group, <http://www.kc4hw.net/FloridaBoys/> an organization of about 15 RTTY enthusiasts in the Melbourne area who will talk with us later in the meeting about the possibility of adding an RTTY mode to the FQP. Members of the FBCG have won many national titles in the RTTY contesting world.

Dan thanked Ulysses NS4W for collecting the votes in our bi-annual FCG elections. Ulysses said that just over 50 % of our membership voted. Voters selected George K5KG to replace retiring VP Jeff WC4E. Votes were also received for Charlie NF4A and Dave N2NL. Dan thanked Jeff WC4E for his many contributions to the club over the past 8 years.

Dan remarked on the success of this year's Vicnic, as well as the amount of interest in the NAQP this year, with lots of members joining teams. Also he noted the continued growth of the club, with 128 members going into the hamfest, and two more joining during the festivities, including KB, K4PG and Roxy, W1ROX for a new total of 130.

Dan encouraged members to join him in participating in the SAC contest next weekend, where he expects to QSO a number of the folks from that area he met during WRTC.

Dan also encouraged participation in the upcoming California QSO Party <http://www.cqp.org/> coming up the first weekend in October. He noted that the CQP has adopted the FQP approach of encouraging out-of-state club competition and has a new plaque to award that winner this year.

There are a lot of major contests coming up in the next few months, contact Dan if you need any help with antenna work.

The meeting attendance requirements to qualify to have your score count for the club in ARRL contests are going away effective 1 November Fred will still keep track of attendance at meetings, but not being there will no longer keep your score in ARRL contests from counting for the club.

There was a wide ranging discussion about the possibility of putting together some educational material for members use in contesting, as well as instituting some internal club award programs. Pete N8PR volunteered to put together a survey to help assess our needs/wants in these areas.

Ron WD4AHZ said that we are looking further into using computerized log checking for FQP logs.

Another extensive discussion took place concerning the possibility of adding an RTTY mode to the FQP. A sampling of some of the pros/cons discussed included:

- (1) Bringing RTTY/Digital users into the contest would add to the overall participation, bringing in a group that normally would not participate on Phone or CW.
- (2) Adding RTTY as a new isolated category in which participants only compete against other RTTYers and cannot add their totals and multipliers to any other mode would bring out the "paper chasers" of which KC4HW says there are many.
- (3) Adding RTTY scores to the mixed or CW category might alienate some participants, who would feel forced to operate some RTTY to stay competitive, and might not want to do so.
- (4) Allowing PSK-31 operation without a power restriction could cause some problems on that mode, since it is traditionally a low power mode.

Jim KC4HW agreed to work with Ron WD4AHZ in polling both club members and the RTTY community at large in seeing how much interest there might be in adding RTTY to FQP.

It was clear that there was no consensus in meeting attendees on this subject. Discussions will continue on the reflector.

Pictures from Melbourne



L to R - Frank NA4CW,
Fred K4LQ, Joe W4SAA



Dave N2NL



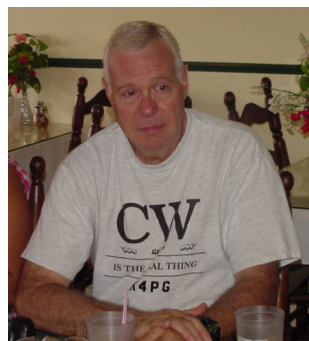
Joe W4IR Lou KE1F



Tom K4MM. Ron WD4AHZ, Roxy W1ROX



Byron W4EBA



'KB' K4PG



Ulysses NS4W



Gary N4DL, Bill K4XS



Above, L to R - Carl WC4H,
Julio AD4Z. To the right of
them - Vic N4TO.

Right: Ed N4EK, Trish
KD4BRJ



Back, l to r. Bob K4LW and Charlotte, Gary K9AW
Reading NCJ - Jim W4YA



The Antenna Farm of Eric, K9ES, genial host of the FCG
Meeting and dessert at Melbourne

ARRL DX 2002 Final Scores

ARRL DX CW 2002

K4NNN	M/M Unlimited	5392	547	8,848,272	Ops: K4OJ, N4KM, T93M, WD4AHZ W1ROX, K4FB, W1CW, W1YL +K0LUZ, NW5E (Guest Ops) Ops: NP3G, W4IR, W4QM, N4TO # 10 USA
N4WW	M/M	2911	469	4,095,777	
N4TO	M/2	3226	512	4,955,136	
K1PT	SO/A	1775	417	2,220,525	
K4PB	SO/A	768	282	649,728	
AB4RL	SO/A	41	26	3,198	
NA4CW	SOQRP	983	285	840,465	# 5 USA
W4AA	SOABLP	1373	366	1,507,554	
N4IG	SOABLP	1462	339	1,486,854	
NF4A	SOABLP	998	247	739,518	Panhandle
KN4Y	SOABLP	575	183	315,675	Panhandle
KB4ET	SOABLP	285	201	171,855	Panhandle
W4YA	SOABLP	284	152	129,504	
KB4N	SOABLP	265	144	114,480	
ND4AA	SO10MLP	436	86	112,448	
W4OV	SOABLP	142	87	37,062	
K4LW	SOABLP	96	74	21,212	
KE1F	SO10MLP	22	17	1,122	
KA6R	SOABLP	19	17	969	
N4AO	SOABHP	2533	352	2,674,848	Op: WC4E
W4SAA	SOABHP	1363	322	1,316,658	
N4PN	SOBHP	1179	98	346,626	# 2 USA 40 Mtrs
N4QV	SOABHP	446	232	310,416	
C6AKQ	SO40MHP	1273	60	229,140	Op: N4BP # 1 World
W7QF	SOABHP	201	115	69,345	
K5KG	SOABHP	154	87	40,194	

ARRL DX Phone 2002

9A1A	M/M	8344	306	7,659,792	Ops: N4PN, NF4A + 8 Ops
N4TO	M/2	4546	535	7,296,330	Ops: K1TO, N4DL, N4TO, T93M, T93Y
K1PT	M/S	2251	453	3,059,109	Ops: AE4SW, AE4RO, K1PT
K5KG	SO/A	2008	433	2,608,392	
WD4OAY	SOABQRP	56	43	7,224	
N4IG	SOABLP	1116	311	1,041,228	
K4RFK	SOABLP	518	211	327,894	
NS4W	SOABLP	534	196	313,992	
KB4ET	SOABLP	375	199	223,875	Panhandle
K8OSF	SOABLP	362	151	163,986	
WD4JR	SOABLP	293	128	112,512	
W4YA	SOABLP	254	139	105,918	
KE1F	SOABLP	228	118	80,712	
N4EK	SO10MLP	180	59	31,860	
KU3O	SOABLP	118	78	27,612	
N4AO	SOABHP	1190	310	1,106,700	Op: WC4E
N8PR	SOABHP	741	281	624,663	
NJ2F	SOABHP	822	230	567,180	
W7QF	SOABHP	362	168	182,448	
W4/M0BUE	SO10MHP	385	95	109,725	
K4FB	SOQRP20M	19	18	1,026	
K4XS	SOSB40M	850	92	234,600	#1 USA
K4VUD	SOSB20M	608	95	173,280	# 7 USA
W4SAA	SOSB15M	310	83	77,190	
N4BP	SOSB10M	1310	102	400,860	
WC4H	SOSB10M	627	86	161,766	

**FCG was # 2 Medium Club with 38 entries
and a total score of 43,978, 458**

Scores of newer members who joined FCG
after the contest are shown for info

CQ WW CW 2001 Final Scores

Call	Category	Q	Z	Cty	Score	
K4XS	M/S	4031	185	634	8,993,439	Ops:K4XS,N2NL,N6MJ # 1 USA
N4TO	M/S	3009	172	584	6,106,968	Ops: N4TO,W4IR,W4QM, AE4SW # 6 USA
K4NNN	M/S	3007	167	563	5,696,920	Ops: W1CW,W1YL,K4OJ,N4KM,T93M,K0LUZ
K5KG	M/M	2337	148	505	4,202,708	Ops: K5KG,WD4AHZ
C6AKP	M/M	2155	94	264	1,440,234	Ops:N4RP,W4SAA
HC8N	M/M				5,235,956	K1TO Portion # 1 World
N2AN	SOABHP	2581	142	424	1,595,086	Op: WC4E # 10 USA
N4ZIQ	SOABHP	1266	76	234	964,100	Op: N4GI
K4LQ	SOABHP	603	87	273	582,840	
WC4H	SOABHP	767	69	191	461,240	
N8PR	SOABHP	411	88	228	341,912	
K4WJ	SOABHP	289	62	160	178,266	
W4JN	SOABHP	108	29	76	24,465	
W4ZW	SOABHP	84	35	64	20,097	
W7QF	SOABHP	64	25	44	9,936	
KP3Z	SOABHPA	4843	158	547	7,763,460	Op: NP4Z
K1PT	SOABHPA	2180	147	498	3,600,390	
K4PB	SOABHPA	688	113	339	818,120	
KE1F	SOABHPA	117	47	84	23,842	
N4PN	SOHP40M	983	37	121	334,170	# 3 USA
W4SO	SOHP40M	821	33	111	316,800	# 4 USA
N4BP	SOHP10M	1458	35	112	601,985	# 3 USA
KW4CW	SOHP10MA	497	35	121	205,764	
ND4AA	SOLP10M-	385	31	106	138,096	
KN4Y	SOLP10M	297	27	77	67,392	
HI3K	SSOLP15	2219	35	118	765,459	Op:AD4Z # 1 World
N4IG	SOABLP	1198	111	367	1,595,086	# 5 USA
WD4JR	SOABLP	430	82	232	330,956	
W3TMZ	SOABLP	280	93	248	220,28	
W4EBA	SOABLP	248	51	135	97,464	
W4AA	SOABLP	143	69	108	93,456	
W4OV	SOABLP	236	58	149	91,287	
N4EK	SOABLP	231	43	122	84,315	
W4UM	SOABLP	132	43	100	41,327	
NF4A	SOABLP	131	48	71	39,746	
K4RFK	SOABLP	166	33	73	31,482	
KA6R	SOABLP	77	31	47	100	

The published FCG Club totals for CQWW both modes
was 84,756,594 # 5 USA

Note CQWWCW will be BEFORE Thanksgiving this
year!

CQ WW SSB 2001 Final Scores

CALL	CATEG	Q	Z	C	SCORE	
K4XS	SOABHP	3218	147	519	5,806,188	#6 USA, #2 W4
K4VUD	SOABHP	1648	109	304	1,704,451	
N4EK	SOABHP	537	64	191	354,960	
W7QF	SOABHP	341	58	166	206,976	
WT2J	SOABHP	328	61	185	175,890	
WD4JR	SOABHP	289	54	156	159,810	
FG/T93M	SOABHP	7409	146	470	11,059,664	#4 WORLD
N4IG	SOABLP	1111	101	312	1,271,627	#2 W4
K4LAW	SOABLP	547	92	215	452,518	
KK4TA	SOABLP	509	62	189	335,587	
W4EBA	SOABLP	326	45	149	154,036	
K4RFK	SOABLP	86	33	70	20,909	
N4BP	SOHP10	1342	30	100	494,650	
W3TMZ	SOHP10	102	33	99	35,244	
W4JN	SOHP15	94	22	56	13,416	
K9ES	SOHP40	240	26	93	58,191	#4 USA
ND4AA	SOLP10	333	26	90	101,616	
NA4CWSO	QRP10	562	29	101	202,150	#2 WORLD
K1PT	SOABASS	1340	134	454	2,093,868	#2 W4
KE1F	SOABASS	410	59	169	213,408	
K0LUZ	SOASS10	810	35	136	377,226	
NJ2F	SOASS15	276	31	105	101,864	
N4PN	MS	3478	161	552	6,493,291	#7 USA, #2 W4
KA6R	MS	390	60	167	201,576	
PJ2Z	MS	#6 WORLD			17,008,011	WC4E one of 5 ops
VP5DX	MS	#9 WORLD			14,619,537	NU4Y one of 7 ops
N4TO	MM	5717	172	652	11,584,616	#5 USA, #1 W4

OPS - N4TO, AE4SW, K1TO, K4LQ, K5KG, N2NL, N4KM, NS4W, WD4AHZ

October FCG Meeting at K4XS

Attendees included: K1KNQ, K1TO, K4LQ, K4LW & Charlotte, K4MM, K4OJ, K4XS & Holly, K5KG, KE1F, N4IG, N4KW, VE7ZO, W1CW & W1YL, W3AU, W3TMZ, W4IX, W4JN, W4SAA and WC4E.

Some members arrived early to help out with installing a 20 meter beam at the top of one of Bill's 199.999 ft towers. To be more specific, Bill climbed the tower and did the actual installation, while the rest of us did some vital ground support stuff. ;-)

Bill and Holly served up a delicious lunch of hamburgers, sausages and all the fixins, washed down with copious amounts of sodas and cervezas, followed by lots of homemade cookies. This being ye scribe's one day a week away from the gym and "eating right", I enjoyed doing more than my fair share of conspicuous consumption!

Dan started the meeting by thanking Bill and Holly for their hospitality. A box was passed, there being a dearth of large enough hats available.

Dan introduced our newest member, Jim Roberts VE7ZO. Jim, along with partner VE3EJ, represented Canada and came in 6th at the recent WRTC competition in Helsinki. Jim has recently relocated to the Tampa Bay area. While looking for a QTH of his own, Jim will be helping the club in some upcoming multiop efforts and "negotiating" his way into other situations as well (wink, wink...).

Dan noted that the ARRL Contest meeting attendance rules that prevented the club using some members' scores last season have been rescinded. All members' scores will now count for the Club totals regardless of the number of meetings they have attended. (K1KNQ was tackled just as he got to the door on hearing that he didn't HAVE to be there) ;-)

How best to commemorate the recent passing of member Paul Knupke Jr. N4PK was discussed. Three things were reviewed.

First, I will collect any donations that members may care to make to the Paul Knupke Jr. scholarship fund. Make checks out to Fred Perkins, send them to me at 3437 Lake Josephine Dr., Lake Placid FL 33852. I will report on the reflector as to the amount collected and send it on to the fund. \$70 was donated by members already at the meeting to the fund.

Secondly, it was suggested that the Club consider sponsoring a plaque in Paul's memory. SS SSB was suggested, that having been Paul's favorite contest. Comments are invited on the reflector.

Thirdly, the club agreed to dedicate their operations in SS on both modes in memory of Paul.

FQP log checking - Dan reported that we may not have to do as much manual log checking, as Ron, WD4AHZ is currently checking out a software product produced by WT4I made specifically for official contest log checkers (not to be confused with the software that helps to scrub logs after a contest). Progress will be reported on the reflector.

Members were polled as to their plans for the upcoming CQWW SSB and SS CW contests. Vic, N4TO will host a M/M effort for CQWW which will utilize 11 operators. Jeff, WC4E will be at PJ2T as part of a 5-man group including rookie K1AR. Bruce, Julio, WD4JR will join several non FCG members at NP2B.

George, K5KG reviewed details of his newly introduced Contest Buddy program and passed out copies of the program outline. Basically, it is intended to match mentors (Elmers) with students (dubbed Elmos) from their part of the state in any contest related topic. George also sent the outline to the reflector recently. The forms will be attached to the upcoming October newsletter as well as being added to our website. George reported receiving inputs from several members already.

After discussions with W4WX at the Melbourne Hamfest, K4LQ will send URLs for downloading some upcoming newsletters to officers of the Florida Dxpediton Group, the Central Florida DX Association and the North Florida DX Association in an outreach effort to interest some of these folks or their members in the FCG. There was also discussion about the officers attending a club meeting of those clubs to explain what the FCG is all about.

Eric, KU4TF volunteered to assist with setting up the next meeting in Orlando. The November meeting has been held at or near the UCF campus the last 2 years on the second weekend of Nov - the weekend in between SS weekends.

George K5KG recommended the URL of the month as <http://www.qsl.net/ei8ic/> Some great contesting, DXing and general information on this site.

In keeping track of upcoming DX contest activities, another good site is <http://www.cpcug.org/user/wfeidt/Contest/index.html>

The meeting concluded with a discussion of some CQWW strategies from Florida for a LP effort. All members who mentioned a SOAB effort in WW SSB were Low Power, so hopefully these tips helped:

1. Start on 20M or 40M. You can't compete with stations to the west on 10 meters this time of night.
2. Don't waste time in a single pileup. At minimum, use the A/B VFO toggle on your rig and also the memories to store info. Effectively, you can call in 2 pileups "at once" by toggling the A/B switch. The point here is not to waste time listening to the DX stn. working other stns, but rather to toggle to the other pileup to call there instead.
3. Low band access to the big gun dxpeditions and DX in general is easier on the second night. Refer to the NG3K list to know which stations are Multi-Multi and will be begging for QSOs by the 2nd night. 40M can be fruitful even in the last several hours on Sunday afternoon, too.
4. Stay on the band(s) that favors EU, since most of your contest qsos will be with EU. This is really the #1 point to remember in generating a high score. There are bottomless numbers of QSOs and multipliers in Europe!
5. Go to 10 meters at sunrise to work Europe and stay there as long as the rate is acceptable. Zone 16 will die out first, then Zone 15 will become less prominent. But there are plenty of Western Europeans on SSB, so stay with it! Stations are spread over nearly a MHz, meaning that there are 600-1000 stations all calling CQ at any one time. Calling CQ high in the band on 10M is often fruitful
6. Look for 20M activity at EU sunrise which is our nighttime. Beginning at roughly 03Z, the Z16 Russians will be pounding in. By 06Z, the Z15 stations will be loud and soon after that the more Western Europeans will get loud, too. This is a prime period for us in the south as we often get better openings to Eu and the Middle East than anyone else in the USA!
7. Don't forget to work USA and Zone 5 on 40, 75 and 160 meters!

8. Tune with the sideband. On 20-15-10, this means tuning from the bottom of the band upward. On 40-75-160, start at the top and work downward.

9. Nearly all the 40M DX will be listening split. Start listening at 7100 and tune slowly downward. K4XS reported working a VU who was transmitting SSB at 7002, so don't stop at 7040, the unofficial SSB band edge!

On 75M, much DX will transmit below 3750 and listen up. A fair bit of European and Caribbean DX will work transceive (or split) in the 3800-3750 segment. And a fair number of Caribbean station work transceive in the 3825-3800 segment, in between the F1-pushing Multiop stations.

Try 160 on the hour, just for a few minutes each time. As stated above, the low bands are likely to be easier on the second night since all the big guns will have worked the easy ones by then.

10. Be smart. Make a rough guess on your QSO and total mults ahead of time and then realize that each mult is only worth 3 or 4 QSOs. So sitting in a raging pileup for 10 minutes is easily offset by working 4 non-mults.



Hosts Holly and Bill K4XS relax after the meeting is over and most of the rowdy FCGers are on their way home!



Above Left Jim K4OJ, Right Joe W4SAA

Below Left Jon W4JN, Right George K5KG
Host Bill K4XS in the background.



Below Left Bob K4LW and Charlotte

Right: Dan K1TO



Ellen, W1YL and Bob W1CW



Left; Jeff WC4E

Right: John W4IX

Thanks to Jon W4JN and
Lou KE1F for many of the
pictures taken at K4XS





Bill K4XS prepares to go up the 199' tower to install a new 20 meter beam



Part way up. (Bill was too small to picture when he reached the top!)



A portion of K4XS Main Operating Position



Part of the K4XS Plaque Collection



A (small) part of the K4XS certificate collection



Bill and Holly hard at work getting chow ready for the assembled group.



Dan K1TO greets Ed W3AU



Left: Dave N4IG explains a Writelog feature to Fred K4LQ



Pete N4KW

Seen on the Reflector

Digital FQP—Voting Results

Thanks to everyone who voted on this issue.

Previous attempts to feel out the members, turned into a discussion of mostly "pros" and "cons" of one digital mode vs. another, on both the FCG reflector and at the Melbourne meeting, but resulted in no clear answer to the basic question:

"Do you want 'digital' (no modes specified yet) to be added to the FQP?"

Needing to know the "will of the members" (as sponsors of the FQP), we needed an answer to that question, in order to determine what to do next. If the majority voted YES, to add "digital" to the FQP, then work could start on hammering out the details. If the majority voted NO, to leave the FQP as is, then we would drop the issue, and proceed no further.

I decided to collect the votes via ballot, so that everyone could give their honest opinion on the issue.

With 54 members voting, the results are as follows:

38.9% (21 votes) YES - add "digital" to the FQP
61.1% (33 votes) NO - leave the FQP as is

The majority favors the FQP the way it is now, without the addition of "digital" modes, so that's the way we'll continue.

Thanks again to everyone who took the time to let me know your opinion and voted on this issue.

73, Ron WD4AHZ

Our Congratulations to FCger Art AB4RL who recently passed the Bar Exam and is working for a firm in Boca Raton doing securities and bankruptcy law.



All the vertical antennas needed for the recent 6Y5A operation, in one neat bundle!

URL of the Month

<http://www.qsl.net/ei8ic/>

Some great contesting, Dxing and general information on this site

Another useful url to keep track of upcoming Contest dxpeditions is

<http://www.cpcug.org/user/wfeidt/Contest/index.html>

2002 September Sprint CW Scores

	20M	40M	80M	Qsos	Mult	Total	
N2NL	160	135	73	368	44	16192	at K1PT
K4NNN	146	95	49	290	48	13920	op: K4OJ
N4AO	123	105	66	294	44	12936	
K5KG	118	132	59	309	42	12669	1st + 300 Effort
W4ZW	105	83	21	209	40	8610	
W4AA	86	91	36	213	38	8094	
NJ4M	115	68	21	204	37	7548	op: WD4AHZ
K4LQ	86	64	13	163	40	6520	
W4SAA	79	49	9	137	38	5480	
ND4AA	90	0	0	90	32	2880	

FCG Clothing Notes

I've been asked to update data on how to purchase FCG Polo Shirts and Caps.

There is a shopping cart available through a url which shows up at the end of all postings on the FCG reflector. This allows you to purchase through the internet. The url is:
<http://www.qsl.net/fcg/cart.html>

Here is what is available:

White Shirt with Orange Lettering

Orange Shirt with Black Lettering

White Cap Orange Brim, Orange Lettering

All White Cap with Black Lettering

All Orange Cap with Black Lettering

Florida Contest Group patch

Prices:

Shirts: All \$25.00 except XXL which is \$27.00

Caps: All caps are \$10.00

FCG Patch: \$7.00

Shipping: 1-2 items \$5.00

3-4 items \$6.00

5 or more items \$7.00

The above are available from FCG Member Jo-Anne KT3O

Her business is:

Initially Yours
 207 N. Main Street
 Lake Placid FL 33852

Phone: 863-699-2411

Event Calendar

CQWW DX Contest SSB Oct 26 0000Z - Oct 27 2400Z

ARRL Sweepstakes CW Nov 2 2100Z - Nov 4 0300Z

FCG Meeting near UCF east of Orlando Nov 9 or 10

ARRL Sweepstakes SSB - Nov 16 2100Z - Nov 18 0300Z

CQWW DX Contest CW Nov 23 0000Z - Nov 24 2400Z
 (Note this is BEFORE Thanksgiving this year)

ARRL 160 Meter Contest Dec 6 2000Z - Dec 8 1600Z

FL State Convention/FCG Mtg -Tampa Area - Dec 7

ARRL 10 Meter Contest Dec 14 0000Z - Dec 15 2400Z

Ed. Note Attached to this newsletter are two pages of the outline of the FCG Contest Buddy Program. This has been discussed on the reflector and at the October meeting. If you are interested in becoming a mentor or student in any of the areas mentioned, please print out these pages and send them to George K5KG

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Florida Contest Group

Contest Buddy Program

The purpose of the Contest Buddy Program is to foster camaraderie among club members, share technical knowledge and expertise about contesting and encourage contest participation. Anyone in the club can participate — as a mentor, a student or both! Mentors are club members who have lots of experience in contesting, and students are those who want to more about contesting. Mentors especially know a great deal about contest operating, station design, logging software, rig control, antennas, towers, etc. The students can be anyone in the club who wants to learn more about contesting from an experienced buddy.

All you have to do to be in the Contest Buddy Program give us your input below, and submit the form. Feel free to check topics as both a Mentor and a Student if you feel that you can benefit from both.

Your FCG officers will match up the buddies and let each of them know who has been paired up. In matching up, the officers will try to make pairings in the same ARRL Section (Northern, Southern and West Central Florida) to encourage eye-ball QSO's.

By filling out and submitting this form, you are agreeing to assist the club member who is assigned as your buddy. Your first obligation will be to get in touch with your buddy, and get to know him or her. A good icebreaker will be to ask how you can help them for their next contest.

Mentors

Please check your areas of knowledge and experience. Add any comments you would like about your specialty or level of expertise. For example, if you have years of placing in the top 10 in Sweepstakes, put it down.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Contests – CW	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contests – SSB	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contests – Domestic	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contests – DX	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contests – VHF	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Station design	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Antennas	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Towers	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Logging software (CT, NA, TRlog, WriteLog, other)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Computers & rig control	_____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	_____

Students

Please check the areas in which you would like to learn and get help from your buddy. Add any comments about particular things in which you would like your buddy's help.

☐ Contests – CW _____

☐ Contests – SSB _____

☐ Contests – Domestic _____

☐ Contests – DX _____

☐ Contests – VHF _____

☐ Station design _____

☐ Antennas _____

☐ Towers _____

☐ Logging software (CT, NA, TRlog, WriteLog, other) _____

☐ Computers & rig control _____

☐ Other _____

NAME: _____ CALL: _____

LICENSE CLASS: _____ FIRST LICENSED (YR) _____

CITY: _____

☐ Northern Florida

☐ Southern Florida

☐ West Central Florida

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

Submit:

Email (k5kg@arrl.net) or fax (941-312-9460) your form to George Wagner, K5KG