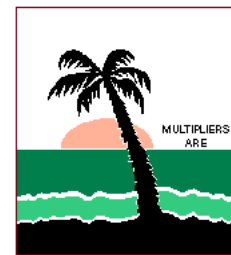


# Contest Gazette

## Florida Contest Group

[www.floridacontestgroup.org](http://www.floridacontestgroup.org)



Volume 15 Issue 3

October 2008

### From the Editor's Corner

*By Fred Perkins, K4LQ*

**D**an K1TO has a lot on his plate at the moment, so with his concurrence, I decided to relieve him of his usual responsibilities of writing every Gazette lead article by writing one myself.



As most of you know by now, FCG lost one of its biggest contributing members when Vic N4TO passed away on August 15. Dan wrote the obituary for Vic which appears on page 4 to lead off our five page memorial section. This write-up also appeared in the FOC magazine "Focus" as well as on a number of reflectors on the internet.

Thanks to the FCGers who helped us move out about 60 percent of Vic's radio related estate at the Melbourne Hamfest

Dan, myself, and Terry N4TB finished our 8th day of work in the N4TO antenna field yesterday and are making good progress in removing Vic's antennas from the towers and taking the towers down. George K5KG, Ron K8NZ and Gary N4DL also lent a hand in the operation. Antennas, towers and related switching devices will be appearing for sale over the next several weeks on the FCG reflector.

Dan is currently working out an M2 operation from his home for CQWW Phone to honor N4TO. It will feature many of the operators who operated M/2 and M/M at N4TO's over the past 10 years or so. The call is expected to be N4T.

Julio AD4Z has applied for the call HI3TO, to be used in the upcoming CQWW CW Contest.

It seems hard to believe that with this issue I will be completing nearly 9 years with FCG, as your Secretary, Treasurer and Newsletter Publisher. Those jobs have become a bit busier over the years, as our membership has grown from about 60 when I started to its current figure of 228.

Prior to sending in their application, potential new members often review the information about the Club on our website, then e-mail me with questions.

One of the more frequently received questions runs along the following lines ... "I'm a Dxer not a contester by prior experience. What does the FCG have to offer someone with my background?"

It is a question that is easy to answer, because to no one's surprise, I am not a contester by background, but have spent a substantial part of my 57 licensed years chasing DX and various awards.

Although I worked many contests in the years prior to joining FCG, a large part of what I have learned about contesting occurred during the time since I joined the club.

As an aside, I also have improved my own Dxing totals since joining FCG. Stay tuned for an article next issue entitled "Ten Band DXCC The Easy Way - Through Contesting" by your publisher.

Potential members also ask "I'm glad to hear I can increase my DXCC band totals as an FCG contester, but how can FCG help me to learn more about contesting?" Here is what I tell them:

"First of all, FCG gives you the opportunity to work with and learn from some of the measurably finest contest operators in the world. You have come to the right spot."

"We have members with lots of CW, SSB and RTTY contesting experience, so whatever mode interests you, there is someone here to help you get underway."

"As a bonus, coming up on the FCG reflector gives you access to the combined knowledge of 228 members. In that group we have people who are very well informed in nearly all aspects of ham radio."

"While a lot of the chat on the reflector is about contesting, I have had occasion to make folders and save discussions on topics such as antennas, radios, lightning protection, grounding, mobile installations, line noise problems etc."

"In addition, FCG has a more formalized program called the Contest Buddy Program. It helps members over a wide range of areas, including contest strategies, station design, antennas, towers, software, computers and rig control and propagation and is accessible from the website <http://www.letchforddesign.com/elmer/index.htm>."

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"Another feature of FCG membership that I particularly enjoy (and I'm sure a new member would too) is the camaraderie shown among members at FCG meetings held at members' homes around the State as well as at hamfests. No matter what you want to talk about there is usually someone to ragchew with that has experience in that area."

Looking elsewhere in our current issue -

In our Welcome Aboard section this month please note that two of our newest members Max KJ4EUT and Coyt KJ4AWM are 12 and 14 years of age respectively. It is wonderful to see folks in this age group getting involved in contesting, balancing out our more err... senior members

FCGers in action around the State on Field Day are shown on Pages 9 and 10. Picture coverage was a little light this year compared to previous years, but following the news on the reflector, a lot of members did get out with their local clubs to participate in the action.

Lu W4LT tells us an unusual Field Day story on Page 11. While displaying an unusual amount of brevity in his log, it was undoubtedly a golden one. :<)

Our two active duty Military members were on the move recently. As noted on Pages 12 and 13, FCG hosted a departure dinner for Dan W0CN who is moving on to a new assignment in Washington DC, and at the same time welcomed Reidar K2PT/YI9PT back from an assignment in Iraq.

The low bands are quieting down as we enter the Fall/Winter season. At this part of the sunspot cycle we can probably expect another season of quality conditions for contest operation on 160 and 80 Meters. Terry N4TB mentioned hearing unusually loud signals from the VK9 dxpedition the past few mornings on 160 Meters.

Moving on to upcoming contests - We will soon be in the heart of the contest season, with both CQWW DX contests, the November SS Contests, the ARRL 160 Meter Contest and the perennial FCG favorite the ARRL 10 Meter contest just around the corner.

Conditions look somewhat favorable for CQWW SSB this weekend. A lot of DX is promised on the NG3K expected operations web page. Look for FCGers at KH7B or KH7XS, PJ2T, PJ4E, and CX7TT.

We can expect strategy discussions and recommendations for the other upcoming contests on the reflector.

As I wrap this up, a note was posted to the reflector that Larry N6AR had suffered a mild heart attack and will undergo an operation shortly. Best wishes for a speedy recovery Larry.

Don't forget the Tampa Bay Hamfest December 6 and 7. Planning is underway for a contest forum there.

Lets hear from you with scores, pictures and stories related to action in the Oct/Nov/Dec contests. Dan will be back writing the Gazette lead with our planned December issue.

73/Fred K4LQ

Contributors to this issue: K9ES, W1YL, KJ4UY, WA4EEZ, N4WO, K5KG, W4DTA, K4LQ, N4PJ, ARRL Contest Update Newsletter

## Welcome Aboard



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

**WA4OAB** - Bob Flynn, 1281 Forrest Hill Dr., Clearwater FL 33756  
e-mail: wa4oab@gmail.com

**N4PSE** - Jim Cast, 1612 East Lake Drive, Plantation FL 33316  
e-mail: jcast1612@aol.com

**KI2G** - Bob Hynes, 5224 Lobo Court, Orlando FL 32819 e-mail:  
ki2g@aol.com

**W3PV** - Ron Maples, 1600 Marina Bay Drive # 202, Panama City FL 32409 e-mail: ronw3pv@gmail.com

**KJ4AWM** - Coyt Barringer, 14202 U>S> Hwy 301 N., Thonotsassa FL 33592 e-mail: cb186355@yahoo.com

*Ed. Note: Coyt, age 14, was our youngest member when he joined..*

**N4GG** - Hal Kennedy, 601 Spyglass Lane, Vero Beach FL 32963 e-mail: n4gg@arrl.net

**K4UTE** - Richard Hicks, 7002 Deauville Road, Jacksonville FL 32205 e-mail: k4ute@comcast.net

**K4DMH** - Douglas Hubbs, 1690 2nd. Ave., Deland FL 32724  
e-mail: k4dmh@mpinet.net

**K4DLF** - David Fowler, 2702 Starwood Court, West Palm Beach FL 33406 e-mail: k4dlf@arrl.net

**W4DL** - Mike Williams, 1010 S.E. 7th Avenue, Pompano Beach FL 33060 e-mail: w4dl@arrl.net

**KJ4EUT** - Max Fountain, 1121 Hermosa Drive, Rockledge FL 32955 e-mail: leonthelion67@yahoo.com

*Ed. Note: Max, age 12, became our latest youngest member.*

**Membership now stands at an all time high of 228!**

## Events Calendar

<b>CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB</b>	<b>0000Z, Oct 25 to 2400Z, Oct 26</b>
<b>ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW</b>	<b>2100Z, Nov 1 to 0300Z, Nov 3</b>
<b>ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB</b>	<b>2100Z, Nov 15 to 0300Z, Nov 17</b>
<b>CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW</b>	<b>0000Z, Nov 29 to 2400Z, Nov 30</b>
<b>ARRL 160-Meter Contest</b>	<b>2200Z, Dec 5 to 1600Z, Dec 7</b>

**Tampa Bay Hamfest at the Manatee Civic Center in Palmetto Dec 6 and 7**

**ARRL 10-Meter Contest** **0000Z, Dec 13 to 2400Z, Dec 14**

### Contester John Crovelli W2GD/P40W seriously injured in tower accident

W2GD was on a 30' tower going up at K8PO's new station in Maine when the temporary guying allowed the pier pin to slip off the base and he rode it down. Deep mud broke the fall, but he had a cracked pelvis, a torn artery, and a broken back. Full recovery is expected, but it will be a while before he is 100%.

Ellen W1YL suggested sending flowers to his rehab hospital in Maine, to be paid for by the K4OJ / W1CW fund. This was done on the 4th of July weekend. Ellen received a call from John on July 5 thanking her and FCG for sending them.

Doug Grant K1DG has put up a blog that allows John to report on his progress. It is on the net at this url: <http://www.w2gd-updates.blogspot.com/>

Here is John W2GD, recovering from his tower fall, but still managing to get on for Field Day from his hospital bed. (his 30-somethingth in a row). Is this class 1H operation? (Photo K1DG)



*Ed Note: Since this writing, John has recovered very well and is, unbelievably, back climbing towers!*

### K1TO comments on CQWW RTTY Contest Results

Results of the Club Competition show us beating the FRC and many other prominent US clubs, finishing behind only the No Cal CC, YCCC and PVRC within the USA. 4 DX clubs also finished ahead of us, so we were #8 in the world, with just over 6 million pts total!

Thanks to all who contributed to that effort! (The results are not grouped by call area and I'm not going to comb the full listing to pull out the FCGers!)

73, Dan, K1TO

### K1TO comments on ARRL 10 Meter Contest Results

The ARRL has released the results of the 2007 10-Meter Contest. As many will recall, this was dominated by the Texans, so it's not surprising what happened in the Club Competition:

"The most competitive club competition category in 2007 was the Medium Club category. 33 clubs qualified for this category, and three broke 1,000,000 points. Winning the club competition for the first time was the Central Texas DX and Contest Club. The 19 logs from CTDXCC members combined for 2,021,354 points, over 106,000 points per log on average. The CTDXCC's club score even exceeded the only club score in the Unlimited category this year. The Florida Contest Group came in second place, with exactly 50 logs (the limit for the Medium category) and 1,509,834 points. The Society of Midwest Contesters came in third place with 1,103,248 points from 31 logs.

The only club to motivate over 50 members to send in entries on its behalf this year was the Potomac Valley Radio Club. 76 logs from PVRC members combined for 1,725,518 points and a solid victory."

So, for the 2nd year in a row, the FCG is gavel-less in the 10-Meter Contest at a time in the sunspot cycle when you would expect us to do well! I think this is purely a reflection (so to speak) of propagation and not of the club's collective effort. Clearly, condx just plain stunk for us in December. I'm quite sure that this was the first ARRL 10 Contest since I've been here in FL (1996) in which a station from FL did not win a single category!

We're only a few weeks away from this year's 10-M Contest already! My hunch is that propagation might favor us dramatically this year.

73. Dan K1TO

## N4TO IS A SILENT KEY

*By Dan Street, K1TO*

**S**adly, Vic, N4TO passed away August 15th at the age of 65 of apparent heart failure at home.

Vic will be deeply missed by the contesting, DXing and FOC communities. He was also the President of the local chapter of his motorcycle club, a hobby he took up less than 10 years ago.

His central Florida station was very well equipped, with 4-stacks on 10 and 15 and 2-stacks on 20 & 40. His 80M 4-square was damaged by a hurricane a few years ago and not replaced.

Vic hosted numerous multi-ops over the past 10 years as well, including two Multi-Multi efforts for CQWW SSB, several M/2 for ARRL SSB, many Multi-Singles for ARRL 10 and even a 2-station M/S effort for SS CW. The cumulative list of operators that Vic hosted is quite formidable.

Vic and I operated 4 Florida QSO Parties using his mobile setup. We almost broke 3000 QSOs a few years ago, using hand keying and logging, and with a chirpy signal to boot.

I had the privilege of being on three successful, record-setting CQ WW CW contest-peditions with Vic in the last 10 years. We went with K4BAI to 8P in 1999 and PJ4 in 2006, then with AD4Z, N4GI and K8NZ to HI3 in 2007.

Vic also went away for SS CW in 1982, operating from Pedro, NP4A's place and finishing 2nd overall, I believe.

Vic had a large hand in increasing the Florida Contest Group membership rolls. In the late 1990s, there was a splinter group formed called the Florida Contest Club, of which Vic was a member. He hosted annual summer picnics, later dubbed the Vicnic, and bridged the gap between the clubs by inviting several of us FCGers to his picnic. Subsequently the Vicnics grew and grew. We had almost 100 attendees at the final Vicnic in the summer of 2005.

Several of us re-installed Vic's 20-Meter stack in April 2007. Vic's stated goal was to work Scarborough for his last all-time new one and to regain Top of the Honor Roll status. However, he missed it by being out to breakfast when the best opening to FL occurred.

Vic was a long-time member of the FOC and traveled often to England to attend FOC functions. He stayed with G4BUE and M0BUE on these visits and used the trips as an opportunity to visit many other FOCers Dxers and Contesters in different parts of England and Scotland.

There are many examples of Vic's kindness. I recall reading about one South Florida Dxer many years ago who needed an amplifier to work a new one. Vic carted his amplifier over to that fellow's QTH just so he could make the QSO. Vic helped me on countless occasions with last-minute equipment and tower ground help, despite living more than an hour away.

After many of the tower work days at his QTH, we would go to the local "Watering Hole" restaurant and chow down on fantastic "Cowboy" steak, the best I've eaten anywhere. He fondly recalled rubbing elbows with Paul Newman who raced at the nearby Sebring Raceway and loved the same restaurant.

Vic volunteered at the Sebring races, yet another of his contributions.

He loved his Miami Dolphins and Univ. of Miami Hurricanes football and was glued to the lounge on Saturdays and Sundays during football season.

Vic and I shared a love for baseball as well and attended a wide variety of games over the years. We were actively planning our next visit to see the Marlins this year.

He loved to tell the story of facing a young Steve Carlton while both were in the Miami school system. We attended and thoroughly enjoyed a Dominican Winter League game last November, courtesy of host HI3CCP.

Vic had triple-bypass surgery 2.5 years ago and had other chronic health challenges, yet he persevered and made the most of it. Vic leaves a sister and brother-in-law in Miami, and a brother in HP. Vic was born in the Panama Canal Zone and served as an officer in the US Coast Guard. He retired to Sebring in 1991 after a career in financial services.

Rest in peace, dear friend.

vy 73, Dan, K1TO



**Vic Dubois N4TO 1942 - 2008**

## List of N4TO DX and Contest Operations

Year	Contest	Call	Cat	Score	Qso	Mult	Ops	Finish
1970	CQWWCW	PJ0FC	MM	11,586,428	7090	551	K1UDD K4BAI K4BVD/6 K4SHB (Vic) PJ2VD W1BIH W1EOB W2EQS W2TA W4BRB W4DQS W4GF W4KFC	#1 World
1972	CQWWCW	ZF1VD	MS	653,838	1744	177	K4SHB (Vic) W4ZMQ WB4TAF	
1974	CQWWCW	6Y5BF	MM	2,403,156	3865	294	6Y5BF K4CEF K4LDR K4SHB (Vic) K4VC W4BRB W4MV W9NFC WB4FLW WB4KZU WB4TAF	#6 World
1978	CQWWCW	HH2CQ	MS	5,256,944	4696	502	HH2TD N4TO N4XR W2SR W4QM W6ORT WA4DRU WB4OSN	#2 World
1979	CQWWCW	HH2MC	MS	5,426,104	4776	466	N4TO W2SR W4QM WA4DRU WB4OSN	#4 World
1981	CQWWCW	P41E	MS	8,059,296	5055	536	K3NA K4BAI K0OO N4TO W6OAT	#1 World
1982	SS-CW	NP4A	SOHP	178,488	1206	74	N4TO	# 2 (by only 10 QSOs)
1996	IARU	N4TO	MS	453,096	1314	126	+WB4EYX WB4MAI WB4OSN	
1997	ARRL-DX-SSB	K4FCC	MS	830,466	1014	273	K4LQ N4TO W4FDA W4OX WB4EYS	#6 USA
1997	WPX-CW	N4TO	SOABHP	711,997	657	383		
1997	IARU	K4FCC	MS	605,430	1224	155	K4LQ N4OLE N4TO W4OX WA4MSU	#10 USA
	CQWWSSB	K4FCC	MS	3,189,558	2063	654	AE4SW K4LQ N4TO W4JAM W4OX W0MAN	#9 USA
1997	SS-CW	N4TO	SOLP	51,800	370	70		
1997	SS-SSB	N4TO	SOHP	72,996	474	77		
1997	ARRL-10	N4TO	MS	984,570	1905	185	+G4BUE WB4OSN	#3 USA
1998	ARRL-DX-CW	N4TO	M2	3,914,865	3085	423	+AE4SW K4LQ W4OX WB4OSN	#10 USA
1998	ARRL-DX-SSB	K4FCC	M2	3,167,235	2427	435	AE4RO AE4SW K4LQ KT3O KT3T N4TO WB4OSN	#7 USA
1998	WPX-SSB	N4TO	MS	3,817,602	1951	786	+AE4SW K4LQ WB4OSN	#7 USA
1998	DXPEDITION	KG4TO					N4TO W4OX W4WX	
1998	CQWWSSB	N4TO	MS	4,775,592	2470	772	+AE4RO AE4SW NT4TT W4JAM	#5 USA
1998	SS-CW	N4TO	SOHP	30,756	233	66		
1998	CQWWCW	VP5M	SOABHP	5,087,556	4523	489	N4TO	
1998	ARRL-10	N4TO	SOMIXHP	298,816	553	161		
1999	ARRL-DX-CW	VP5M	SOABHP	1,698,096	2081	272	N4TO	
1999	ARRL-DX-SSB	N4TO	SOABHP	92,718	202	153		
1999	DXPEDITION	KG4TO					N4OO N4TO	
1999	IARU	N4TO	SOCWHP	44,891	136	77		
1999	CQWWSSB	N4TO	MS	6,261,284	3049	766	+K1KNQ K1TO	#7 USA
1999	SS-CW	N4TO	SOLP	13,068	121	54		
1999	CQWWCW	8P9Z	MS	18,711,252	8245	861	+K1TO K4BAI	NA Record, #2 World
1999	ARRL-10	N4TO	MS	325,720	654	170	+G4BUE	
2000	ARRL-DX-CW	N4TO	SOABHP	437,400	600	243		
2000	CQWWSSB	N4TO	MM	10,853,379	5150	837	+AE4RO AE4SW K1KNQ K1TO K4LQ K5KG KT3T W4IR	#7 USA
2000	CQWWCW	N4TO	MS	6,395,444	3192	764	+N4KM W4IR WD4AHZ	#8 USA
2000	ARRL-10	N4TO	MS	1,816,920	2446	252	+packet	
2001	CQWWSSB	N4TO	MM	11,584,616	5717	824	+AE4SW K1TO K5KG K8DSS N2NL N4KM NS4W WD4AHZ	#5 USA
2001	SS-CW	N4TO	MS	177,600	110	80	+K1TO K4LQ	#9 USA
2001	CQWWCW	N4TO	MS	6,106,968	3009	756	+W4IR W4IX W4QM	#6 USA
2002	ARRL-DX-CW	N4TO	M2	4,955,136	3226	512	+NP3G W4IR W4QM	#10 USA
2002	ARRL-DX-SSB	N4TO	M2	7,296,330	4546	535	+K1TO N4DL T93M T93Y	#5 USA
2002	FQP	N4TO/m	MS MIX	648,032	2119	77	+K1TO (44 counties)	#1
2002	WPX-CW	KZ4DX	MS	7,345,092	3084	932	K1TO K4LQ N4TO W4IR W4QM	#6 USA
2002	CQWWSSB	N4TO	MM	13,218,114	6229	903	+AD4Z K1TO K4MM N2NL N4DL NS4W VE7ZO W4IX	#4 USA
2002	CQWWCW	N4TO	M2	5,791,575	3154	775	+G4BUE K4LQ N1TO N4TB W4IR W4QM W4SO	#9 USA
2002	ARRL-10	N4TO	MS	1,392,480	1658	240	+G3WGV W4IR	
2003	ARRL-DX-SSB	N4TO	SOABHP	120,717	263	153		
2003	FQP	N4TO/m	MS CW	584,508	2187	67	+K1TO (44 counties)	#1
2003	CQWWSSB	N4TO	M2	6,680,115	3569	41	+K1TO T93M W4IX W4SAA	#7 USA
2003	SS-CW	N4TO	SOLP	20,280	156	65		
2003	SS-SSB	N4TO	SOHP	28,776	218	66		
2004	FQP	N4TO/m	MS CW	733,608	2673	69	+K1TO (44 counties)	#1
2004	ARRL-10	N4TO	SOMIXLP	20,286	109	63		
2005	FQP	N4TO/m	MS CW	807,024	2983	68	+K1TO (44 counties)	#1
2006	CQWWCW	PJ4A	MS	19,776,302	8369	817	+K1TO K4BAI	#1 World - Record
2007	ARRL-DX-CW	N4TO	SOABLP	21,630	103	70		
2007	CQWWCW	HI3A	M2	18,467,722	10600	754	+AD4Z HI3CCP K1TO K8NZ N4GI	NA Record, #7 World

Ed. Note: K4SHB=N4TO, K4BVD=W60AT, WB4OSN=W4IR, AE4RO=K4MM, AE4SW=W4IX, W4DQS=W4QM, WB4EYX=KX4WW, WB4MAI=W4OX, NP3G=N4TB



## N4TO Operations Pictures



**ARRL SSB MULTI-TWO 2002 - L-R Gary N4DL, Vic N4TO, Dan K1TO. Boris T93Y, Danny N4EXA**



**CQWW SSB 2001 - The N4TO Team Picture : Front Row l to r: Ulysses NS4W, Vic, N4TO, John AE4SW, Back Row: l to r: Dave N2NL, Dan K1TO, Ron WD4AHZ, George K5KG and Kevin N4KM**



**2001 at K5KG,, L-R Vic N4TO, Dan K1TO, Fred K4LQ**



**HI3A Team December 2007 - Vic at Right**



**A break in the action at K5KG -**

**L-R  
Fred K4LQ  
Vic N4TO  
Kay, XYL  
K5KG  
Dan K1TO**



**Field Day 2000 - L-R Vic N4TO, Jim K4OJ, Fred K4LQ**



## Vicnic and Other Pictures



*VICNIC 2001*



*Vicnic 2002 with Dave KB4ET and Jim K4OJ*



*Above L-R Vic N4TO, Paul K1PT, Dan K1TO & Mary Ann.  
Below Vicnic 2001*



*L-R Vic N4TO, Dan K1TO, Fred K4LQ, Ron WD4AHZ  
at a K5KG antenna party.*



*Vic At K9V Vicnic 2006*

**Some Representative Reflector Comments About  
Vics Death and Dan K1TO's Tribute to Vic**

Great tribute post Dan.

I am also saddened of Vic's passing. He so very generous at the Vicnics I attended. I remember once he was embarrassed to see hat being passed to help defray the cost of the Vicnics. I remember he wanted to donate the proceeds collected, back in to the club.

Even recently this spring I was on the air struggling to make a few QSOs, many would answer my N4AO call with "N4TO Hi Vic 599..." only to have to correct them with a sri, de N4AO. He was well loved and very popular on the bands.

RIP OM  
73,OJ, Jeff WC4E

Nice tribute to Vic. He was a great op and always a gentleman in the pileups.

We will miss him. 73 de Doc N4WW

I'm very sorry to hear of Vic's death. I know he was a good friend, to you, the FCG guys, and the contesting community in general.

Please pass my sympathies to the appropriate people down there.  
73 - Jim K8MR

Deeply saddened to hear of the death of Vic, N4TO. Did not know him very well until our trip to HI3 in November. Grew to have a deep affection for a true gentleman. He will be missed.

73/OJ,  
Ron, K8NZ

Well, I remember attending two "VicNic's" in the past. The first time we went, we were warmly welcomed by "Vic" into his home. H always went above and beyond with great food and just plain good old hospitality. both trips were very enjoyable. Just a big shock and loss.

RIP, N4TO ED N4EK

He was a good man and a wonderful ambassador for ham radio. Like many others I too had the pleasure of knowing Vic and operating from his home. 73's Vic, we will miss you.

Gary N4DL

What a shame. My memories of Vic are of his hospitality (all the Vicnics) and his fine station.

Holly (WH7YL) remembers her first exposure to all of the FCGers at the her first Vicnic...quite an overwhelming experience made easier by Vic's gracious hospitality.

He was a good guy and a good ham. He will be missed!

Bill and Holly KH7XS/K4XS, WH7YL

It is indeed very sad to lose Vic. Like all FCGers, I really liked his great good humor and healthy attitude on life, a joy to be around him. I guess my shock at the news is compounded because I never ever thought of him leaving us. He seemed to be just always there, and so present!

I really do not like being 64 and seeing my friends, acquired over the good years departing. It does not seem fair. 73 Vic

Charles Harpole

Thanks for passing this sad news. As one who has operated from Vic's a number of times, I will miss him. Vic was such a fantastic host. I have operated at many M/M operations, and Vic put on one of the best. A fine man, gentleman, and ham. Good propagation my friend!  
73, Kevin N4KM

I am sad to hear of the loss of Vic, N4TO. Vic was a kind and generous man with the true "ham" spirit. I wish him well on the ultimate DXpedition.

Norm, W1MO



## FCGers In Action on Field Day



*Above: Bill KH7B (K4XS) in FD action at his QTH in HI*

*Below: Here is a picture of FCG'ers and friends at Saint Petersburg ARC 2008 Field Day site on the grounds of Bay Pines VA Hospital, where they operated at W4TA.*

*L to R: Gus, VO1MP, Leslie, WA4EEZ (President SPARC)--Dan, K1TO (President FCG)--Ron, KP2N (SPARC Contest Group Manager)--Dave, KR4U (SPARC FD Chairman)--Tom, W4CU and Scott N4RI at the Rig.*



*Gus VO1MP operates W4TA*



*Dan K1TO operates W4TA*



*Above: Greg N4WO looks pretty intense as he bangs out QSOs from a FD location in a hangar at Hernando County Airport.*





*Above: L-R Eric K9ES and Chuck AD4ES breaking in Eric's new shack during Field Day. K9ES operated with generator power during the FD operation.*



*Above: Chris WF3C (in blue hat) rounds out the K9ES Field Day Team.*



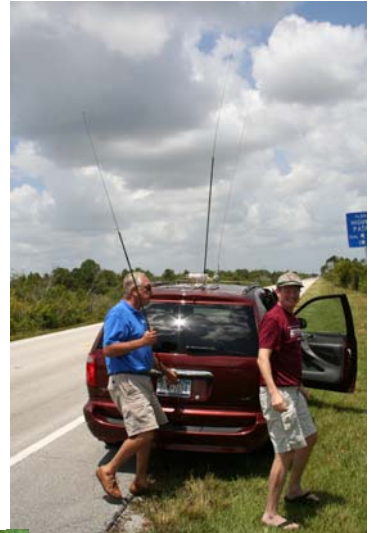
*Chuck AD4ES checks generator and fills gas tank on Sunday morning at 3 AM at K9ES Field Day.*

## Late arrival pix from N4KK/m in FQP



*The N4KK/m Vehicle*

*L-R Vic, WA0USA and Fred N4KK, 2/3 of the N4KK/m team. Missing is Sjaak W4RIS who took the pictures*



*Vic WA0USA operating.*

## A Field Day Story - 1977

By Lu Romero W4LT

My wife Linda has never shared my enthusiasm for Amateur Radio in general and Contesting in particular. To say she tolerates my Hobby is somewhat accurate.

Could it be subjecting her to the indignity of being a "rig support" at our wedding had something to do with it?



This is how I spent Field Day, 1977. . The gents surrounding me are members of the Uniontown Amateur Radio Club, who got me hooked into contesting and then never forgave me for screwing up FD '77 for them. She had set the date, the reception building was not available for any other dates in June, and she wanted a June wedding... So there was no discussion.

What was I to do?

My friends then came up with a "creative" solution at the reception.

Is she laughing or crying? It depends... A lifetime of sharing life with a contester follows... How long will she tolerate this indignity?



Here is the Log, on a wedding napkin

DATE	TIME	CALL	RST	QTH	NO
6/25/77	2130	WB3BZC	59	W.Pa	1
WB3BZC/Wedding 3					
WB3AB3/3 Logger					
WB3068/3 George					
WB30VV/3 John P. Syner					
WB3006/3 George					

Linda and Lu  
June 25, 1977

One QSO, no multipliers. Not much of a signal with a Drake TR22C at one watt.

But I did get out to the parking lot... The tower is only 5 foot two inches high. But it has terrific blue eyes...

31 years later, Linda and I celebrated our 31st wedding anniversary in the CW tent at the Tampa Amateur Radio Club's N4TP operation



But just for a few minutes... Hey, she's smiling again, but then the camera comes down and I get an elbow in the ribs... "OK, we got the picture, that's enough dots and dashes... Lets go, its hot in here".

Don't ask her if she will ever get licensed... You will not be happy you did that.

Oh, and did I tell you her birthday is on SS-SSB weekend?

-lu-W4LT-



### FCG hosts departure dinner for Dan W0CN, welcomes Reidar K2PT/YI9PT back from Iraq

FCG hosted a departure dinner for one of our two active duty military members, Dan Hausaeur W0CN (USAF) at Smokey Bones in Brandon on July 18. Dan will be completing a tour at Mac Dill AFB in Tampa shortly and is being reassigned to the Washington DC area. Honored guests at the dinner were Reidar Larsen K2PT/YI9PT (USMC) and his family. Reidar returned recently to Mac Dill from Iraq.

Attending were Dan W0CN, Reidar K2PT/YI9PT + Janet (KC0MKD) + Reid (KI4MLR) and Ella, Dan K1TO, George K5KG + Kay, Fred K4LQ + Sheila, Lu W4LT + Linda, Ellen W1YL, Bob K2EUH, and Dick K4GKD.

Between N4PJ and K4LQ we got pictures of all attendees except K2EUH and K4GKD.



*Dan W0CN*



*L-R Kay (XYL K5KG), Linda (XYL W4LT) and Sheila (XYL K4LQ) (My apologies for cutting off the a bit of Kay's left side. It was a little dark in that corner of Smokey Bones at the time ;<)*



*L-R Art N4PJ and Ellen W1YL*



*L-R Lu W4LT and George K5KG*



*L - R Dan K1TO and Marsha K4IRI (XYL N4PJ)*



*L-R Reidar K2PT/YI9PT and Dan W0CN*



*L-R Reid KI4MLR ( son of K2PT) and Janet KC0MKD (XYL K2PT) Ella, daughter of K2PT*

### Web Site of the Week

(From the ARRL Contest Update Newsletter 07/23/2008)

It's a good thing that the Internet wasn't around in 1933 or we'd all have "thrown in the towel" and taken up...oh, I don't know...computer programming using mercury-filled memory delay lines. Why? Because the current solar minimum is still a piker compared to the one between Cycle 16 and Cycle 17!

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/update/index.html?issue=2008-07-23>

This NASA article (partially excerpted in next column) should make everybody feel a little better - especially the little arrow that says, "You Are Here" right before the next cycle is predicted to zoom right back up!

### Thank You note from Dan W0CN

It is a beautiful Labor Day weekend in the Washington DC area. I started my new job a couple of weeks ago at the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) in Arlington/Falls Church, and I'm still busy learning the ropes. Also busy continuing to get settled into our new home, and hopefully I'll be able to spend some more time planning a basic antenna installation soon. I also hope to operate from K4AF, Pentagon ARS, when time permits and link up with some PVRC folks.

Thanks for the great send-off dinner. The great friendship of FCG members will last a lifetime. Keep in touch, and when you are up in the DC area, please be sure to drop me a line.

73,

Dan W0CN

Dan@hausauer.net



## ARRL DX SSB Final Scores

Call	Score	QSOs	Mult	Class	Section	Operators
N4BP	134,244	396	113	MS	SFL	N4BP, GW4JUN
WU4N	41,310	153	90	MS	NFL	N4PJ, K4IRI
K1TO	580,692	868	223	SOABHP	WCF	
K4PV	470,838	809	194	SOAB HP	NFL	
N6AR	385,392	592	217	SOAB HP	NFL	
NJ2F	248,346	438	189	SOAB HP	SFL	
W7QF	84,582	222	127	SOAB HP	NFL	
N4LZ	28,032	128	73	SOAB HP	NFL	
KT4Q	160,140	340	157	SOAB HP (A)	NFL	
WA4ASJ	117,276	337	116	SOAB HP (A)	SFL	
K5KG	91,098	241	126	SOAB HP (A)	WCF	
W4ZW	63,612	171	124	SOAB HP (A)	WCF	
W4CU	33,768	134	84	SOAB HP (A)	WCF	
W4EEQ	23,850	106	75	SOAB HP (A)	SFL	
W4FDA	20,223	107	63	SOAB HP (A)	NFL	
K9OM	240,087	419	191	SOABLP	NFL	
W4TAA	210,672	532	132	SOAB LP	WCF	
W3TB	40,545	159	85	SOAB LP	WCF	
AC5ZS	33,840	141	80	SOAB LP	SFL	
K4GKD	27,225	121	75	SOAB LP	WCF	
N4LF	22,512	112	67	SOAB LP	SFL	
N4WO	16,284	92	59	SOAB LP	NFL	
W4LT	191,565	387	165	SOAB LP (A)	WCF	
N4DL	167,475	385	145	SOAB LP (A)	WCF	
W4AMS	160,056	342	156	SOAB LP (A)	SFL	
W4TBB	88,452	234	126	SOAB LP (A)	SFL	
W4KPG	9,360	60	52	SOAB LP (A)	SFL	
KG4TPZ	1,932	28	23	SOAB LP (A)	SFL	
N4QV	29,568	154	64	SOSB HP 40	SFL	
NA4CW	2,301	59	13	SOSB HP 10	SFL	
WJ9B	1,650	25	22	SOSB HP 160	NFL	
W4WR	11,340	84	45	SOSB LP 20	SFL	
WF3C	5,952	62	32	SOSB LP 20	SFL	

**FCG Dxpediton**

V26X	5,595,759	6,591	283	MS	V26	K1XX, W1MD
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<b>FCG Total</b>	9,164,424					
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**Honorary DX Member**

KH7B	559,143	3159	59	SOSB HP 20	HI
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### WPX CW Claimed Scores

Station	Score	QSOs	MULTS	Class	OPERATOR (S)
WU4N	663,085	1,005	493	MS	N4PJ KR4OW (50% FCG score)
WX4CW	166,005	463	217	MS	UA3AGW N4RI N1XX K4FO N4OK W4LT
KM4MK	1,940,145	1,592	613	Mult-One	N4UU,WW4B
NE4AA	8,154,361	3,043	911	SOABHP	K1TO - no skimmer
W4QM	1,343,772	1,138	489	SOABHP	
K4LQ	634,356	593	378	SOABHP	
AC4TT	407,880	546		SOABHP	W1MO
W4FDA	174,012	257		SOABHP	
N4TB	142,284	389	213	SOABHP	
N6AR	311,998	329	257	SOABHP	
KG0Z	68,138	206	157	SOABHP(A)	W4ZW
W4ZE	66,818	207	161	SOABHP(A)	
K8NZ	17,760	104	80	SOABLP	
WJ9B	3,078,738	1,861	669	SOABLP	
WK2G	2,670,564	1,754		SOABLP	
N4IG	830,274	797	426	SOABLP	
K4MF	224,845	352	223	SOABLP	
N4LF	206,790	360	226	SOABLP	
KT4PD	44,144	175	124	SOABLP	
KE1F	511,500	697	372	SOABLP (A)	
W4EE	442,611	519	351	SOABLP(A)	
K4MM	119,028	300	182	SOABLP (A)	
NF4A	2,554,110	1,796	666	TB-WIRES HP	
WD4AHZ	1,146,752	1,033	496	TB-WIRES LP	
NN4FL	137,970	312	210	TB-WIRES LP	N4EEB
WC4E	79,632	200	158	TB-WIRES LP	
W4LT	37,268	148	121	TB-WIRES LP	
KT6V	5,292	50	42	TB-WIRES LP	K9VV
WN1GIV	700,580	713	367	SB 15M	N4BP (20m score for FCG too!)
K1UM	311,140	583	331	SB 15M	K1UM
KN4Y/M	10,350	50	45	SB 40M	FCG'S only Mobile entry
N4QV	204,881	232	211	SB 40M (A)	

FCG Total 27,407,083

#### Hon Overseas Members

CX7TT	1,180,621	756	461	SOABHP(A)	K6CT
KH7B	3,776,780	1718	742	SB 20M	K4XS

### CQ 160 Meter CW Claimed Scores

Station	Claimed	QSOs	MULTS US/VE	MULTS DX	TOTAL MULTs	Class	Comments
N4WW	220,685	403			115	M/S HP	S/O Assisted
WJ9B	384,443	1017	56	53	109	SOHP	
K9OM	376,542	800	54	60	114	SOHP	
K2EK	309,979	831	54	53	107	SOHP	
W4SAA	223,304	570	52	51	103	SOHP	
N6AR	210,120	483	52	50	102	SOHP	
W7QF	86,984	255	45	38	83	SOHP	
K1UM	51,450	150			70	SOHP	
K4PB	146,608	434	52	42	94	SOHP (A)	
N4BP	225,600	800	53	41	94	SOLP	
W4AA	127,080	401	49	41	90	SOLP	
N4EK	34,428	225	42	15	57	SOLP	
KN4Y	19,106	210			41	SOLP	
K4BK	7,488	114	32	1	33	SOLP	First time on 160 meters

FCG Total 2,423,817

## ET3VSC, K4BAI visit K5KG

Recently Larry KJ4UY brought Claudio IV3VSC/ET3VDC to visit George K5KG. Also visiting was FCger Ed K8DSS, recently returned to Florida after living and working several years in Colorado.



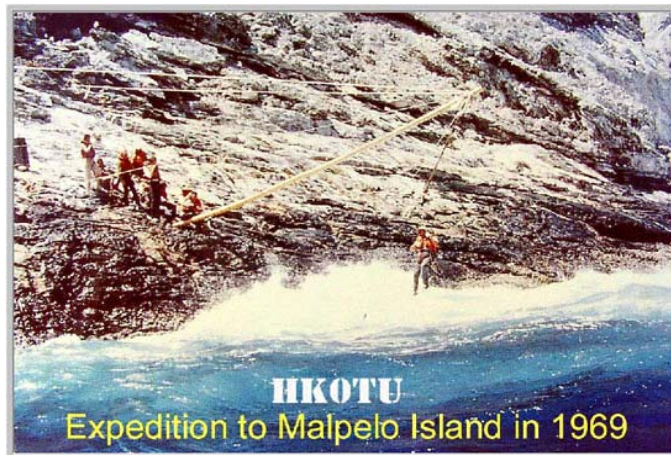
*L-R Claudio IV3VSC/ET3VSC, his XYL Maria Theresa, and Kay XYL of K5KG*



*L-R Larry KJ4UY, Ed K8DSS, Claudio IV3VSC and George K5KG*



*John Laney, K4BAI, took time out to visit K5KG on his recent visit to the Sarasota area to work the IARU Contest from K1TO's QTH.*



*Dick K4GKD and Jim W4YA correctly identified our "Mystery FCger in the July Gazette as Dale W4QM . Then W4DQS, Dale was part of a dxpe-dition crew that activated HK0TU to commemo-rate 150 years of ownership of this island by Co-lombia.*



*Above: Larry KJ4UY tries out his Begali Graciela Iambic Key that he won at Dayton in a raffle from the Sky-view Radio Club in PA.*

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