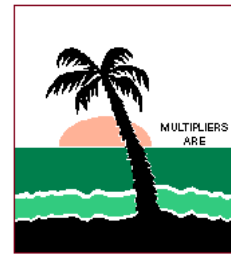




Contest Gazette

Florida Contest Group

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Volume 10 Issue 6

December 2003

From the President's Corner

By Dan Street, K1TO



Happy Holidays to all!

In a year that saw our membership rolls swell to nearly 170, it was nonetheless sad to say goodbye to two remarkable gentlemen – Ed W3AU and Jeff N4JT – yet uplifting to honor a third (Bob W1CW, the FCG's "founding grandfather") with an elaborately prepared Multi-Multi for CQWW CW. This club is nearly 5x larger than it was 5 years ago and thanks to all of our collective efforts both on and off the air, the world is taking notice!

ARRL DX - Results for 2003 broke new ground for the FCG. Conditions for both weekends of ARRL DX really favored us in Florida, with lengthy openings on 10M during the morning hours and on 20M in the hours prior to dawn. With 73 entries, it was the first time we'd ever broken the 50-entry mark to pass into the deeper, uncharted waters of the Unlimited Club Competition (and we had just 38 entries in 2002!). It will be a while, a long while, before we challenge the three northeastern mega-clubs. However, the Society of Midwest Contesters, which also finished ahead of us with 105 entries, had a slightly lower points per entry, and we have actually already beaten them in CQWW, despite their 500+ members. The key point is that, no matter how you look at it, we are now one of the top 5 DX Contest clubs in the USA, despite a substantial membership deficit.

CQWW – 135M claimed points represents a nice hike over last year's numbers. Odd activity from the sun impacted conditions in a mostly favorable way this year.

SS – It looks like we have 49 or 50 entries and will once again squeeze into the Medium Club category for SS. Our cumulative score exceeds 4 million points, so we might just "steal" a victory on our way to growing into the Unlimited category! It was very neat to unveil the W4FCG and N4FCG callsigns during SS this year – yet another way that the world is hearing about the FCG in a big way.

ARRL 10 – With conditions that heavily favored the Southeast, plus loads of preparatory material from Jeff WC4E, the FCG was poised to take full advantage. Check out our scores and see just how many high-ranking scorers we have in the club! Conditions were far below last year when we had 27M club points to win the Medium category and I suspect that our 18M+ points this year might just dominate the club listing!



SEASONS GREETINGS FROM YOUR EDITOR

FCG progress is not evident just in the "majors", though. On the VHF and RTTY fronts, we've shown some real growth, thanks in no small part to guys like Jim KC4HW, Gary NW5E and Ivars KC4PX who have assembled competitive stations and strategy for those fronts. Many FCGers support the other state QSO parties, in part to thank them for their huge participation in our own FQP. Lots of FCG members prefer the non-majors where the pace is calmer and there are actually a few unoccupied frequencies on which to CQ!

Our Florida QSO Party experienced tremendous growth this year, thanks to both the mobiles and fixed stations. Log submissions are up nearly 50% over last year! We are still actively working with Bruce WA7BNM on automating the log checking process.

Have you checked the Contest Buddy pages on our web site lately? I count 36 of us registered as either Elmers or

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“Elmos”. If you have not already done so, please take a moment to enter your information in there and give others an opportunity to tap your knowledge and also take advantage of the chance to learn from others.

Welcome aboard to our new members. Mark K4SWF was active in the 10-Meter Contest and his suffix represents the growing group of South West FL members. Dana K1RQ is an old friend from our YCCC days and was quite successful from MA and ME. George K2WO joins us from Orlando. Ron K8NZ was part of the NJ4M SS SSB team and will begin spending parts of each year in FL. Ron has a super contest resume that includes many high finishes from PJ2T, K8AZ, etc and is a past President of both the North Coast Contesters and the Mad River Radio Club. Jeff AJ2U has been quite active with the K4FAU group in the Boca Raton area as well as from home with a Spartan setup. Bill KF8HR hails from the Cincy area (where I was born, for you trivia buffs) and will spend part of each year over on Lido Key just west of Sarasota.

Our new FCG Banner sure made the rounds this year – meetings/conventions starting with Dayton all experienced the proud display of our banner.

Fred K9VV contributed another interesting article, this one regarding our frequency spectrum. Please read it and give some thought to your role in the future of ham radio.

On a personal note, I took a trip down Memory Lane this week as I toured ARRL HQ. I enjoyed working there while in high school and college in the late 1970s. There are a number of folks that are still there now! Compared with the “real world” of cutthroat corporate America, the non-profit ARRL sure moves along with less drastic change.

Once again, I would like to thank our other FCG officers for their consistent, thorough and progressive efforts this year. George K5KG as VP, Ron WD4AHZ as FQP VP and Fred K4LQ as Treasurer/Secretary/Gazette Publisher all deserve a big round of applause, so stop for a moment right now and please give them that!

The success of this club goes far beyond the efforts of your four officers, though. It is YOU who finds the time and motivation to contribute in your own unique way to the common good.

GO FCG! Happy New Year!

Vy 73, Dan

2004 Dues request Coming Up

I expect to be putting out my annual call for dues on the reflector the first of the year. Completed the budget review with Dan K1TO, 12/29 and it was agreed to keep the dues at their present level. \$10 annually for single or family membership with newsletter downloading from the FCG web page, \$15 for hardcopy delivery. 73, Fred K4LQ (also) FCG Treasurer

Welcome Aboard



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

K4SWF Mark Kennedy, 1241 12th St/ North, Naples FL 34102 e-mail: K4SWF1@yahoo.com

K1RQ Dana Cobb, 2206 41st St .Ct West., Bradenton FL 34205 e-mail: objoyful@tampabay.rr.com

K2WO George Sereikas, 326 Isle of Sky Circle, Orlando FL 32828 e-mail: k2wo@arrr.net

K8NZ Ron Harps, 313 Ohio Rd., Lehigh Acres FL 33936 e-mail: nzharps@aol.com

AJ2U Jeff Janock 7222 Carmel Court, Boca Raton FL 33433 e-mail: aj2u@bjck.com

KF8HR Bill Storer, 1104 Ben Franklin Drive, Sarasota FL 34236 e-mail: wstorer@cinci.rr.com

AL7HG and **WB4RUN** Dave and Sabia Kaiser, PO Box 1113, Crystal River FL 34428 e-mail: al7hg@arrr.net

This brings our member total to 172

Events Calendar

ARRL RTTY Roundup 1800Z, Jan 3 - 2400Z, Jan 4

North American QSO Party, CW 1800Z, Jan 10 - 0600Z, Jan 11

North American QSO Party, SSB 1800Z, Jan 17 - 0600Z, Jan 18

CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW 0000Z, Jan 24 - 2359Z, Jan 25

ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes 1900Z, Jan 24 - 0400Z, Jan 26

North American Sprint, CW 0000Z - 0400Z, Feb 1

North American Sprint, Phone 0000Z - 0400Z, Feb 8

CQ/RJ WW RTTY WPX Contest 0000Z, Feb 14 - 2400Z, Feb 15

ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW 0000Z, Feb 21 - 2400Z, Feb 22

CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB 0000Z, Feb 28 - 2359Z, Feb 29

Jeff Hutchinson N4JT SK

Ed Note: Jeff wrote his own obituary, which is reproduced below.

Thomas Jefferson "Jeff" Hutchinson, 76, died on December 2, 2003, in Houston, TX, of a rare form of leukemia. He was a resident of Merritt Island, FL since 1991, after living in the Washington, D. C. area.

Mr. Hutchinson was born in Washington, D. C., but moved to New Jersey as an infant. He attended schools in Union County, N. J. until 1943, when he joined the U. S. Navy at the age of sixteen. He attended Navy technical schools to earn a rating of Radioman 2/c, and served in that capacity at Navy shore stations and aboard several communications ships. Jeff also flew a number of submarine search missions in the North Atlantic off Kitty Hawk, N. C. At the war's end, Jeff served aboard a logistics vessel in the Pacific as part of the fleet that expected to support the invasion of Japan.

After being honorably discharged in 1946, Jeff was employed as a Flight Radio Officer by American Overseas Airlines, where he became a crew member, flying aboard Douglas DC-4's and Lockheed Constellations, on the route from New York to Western Europe and Scandinavia. He also received his private pilot's license, soloing in 1946 in a Piper J-3 Cub at the old Hadley Field in New Jersey.

During the summers of 1949 and 1950, Jeff served as Radio Operator aboard the SCHOONER BOWDOIN on expeditions to northern Canada and Greenland with Admiral Donald B. MacMillan. In 1949 Jeff enrolled as a student at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine, the primary sponsor of Adm. MacMillan's maritime research voyages.

His study of electronics and physics, especially optics, led Mr. Hutchinson into many interesting projects during his working career. While working for Spectrolab, a Division of Textron, Jeff invented and received a patent for the first Laser Safety Goggles. Later, he was part of the Spectrolab engineering team that developed the successful Nightsun helicopter searchlight, which is still in use by night-flying helicopters for search and rescue missions across the globe.

The success of the Nightsun searchlight led to his work with the motion picture industry, which was anxious to replace large location lights with light-weight fixtures that could be handled by one man, rather than three. Mr. Hutchinson eventually formed a company, Xenotech, Inc., for the development and introduction of the "Sunbrute" xenon-lamp location lighting system. Having revolutionized night-time filming, they were enthusiastically received by the movie studios. In 1971, Jeff received a technical Academy Award from the Motion Picture Academy of Arts and Sciences. Mr. Hutchinson's career led to his work in the defense electronics business, where he was a sales representative in the Washington D.C. area for Allied Signal Corp, now part of Honeywell, Inc.

Upon his retirement from Allied, he moved to Florida where he continued his involvement as an active radio amateur operator (N4JT). He was a member of the Indian River (FL) Amateur Radio Association, and the First Class CW Operator's Club (FOC.) After a year of retirement, Jeff reactivated his commercial radio licenses and sailed part of each year as a Merchant Marine Radio Electronics Officer. For approximately eight years he sailed aboard the Matson container ship SS MAUI, which sailed from California to Honolulu.

His passion for flying light planes continued undiminished throughout his life. At the time of his death, he held a FAA Commercial Pilot's Certificate with an Instrument Rating, and was an aircraft owner and member of the Brevard Aviation Association at Merritt Island (FL) airport.

Jeff is survived by his wife of 39 years, Sandra Louise Jehle Hutchinson; son Scott Howard Hutchinson, his wife Carolyn, and granddaughter Mary Kathryn, Missouri City, Texas; son John Benham Hutchinson and his wife Heather, Rockledge, Florida; son Peter Robert Hutchinson, Narragansett, Rhode Island, and grandsons Cameron and Christian; daughter Melissa Margaret Gunther, Germantown, Tennessee, and grandchildren Sarah, Brian, Eric, and Amy; sister Mae Benham Kinsman and her husband James; and many beloved nieces and nephews.

A funeral service will be held on 5 Dec 2003, at Faith Lutheran Church, Merritt Island at 4:pm. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to MD Anderson Cancer Center, P.O. Box 4486, Houston, TX 77210-4486, or a charitable, religious, or medical organization of your choice.



ARRL SS SSB Claimed Scores

K4XS	175	842	1042	164	0	2223	80	355,680	SOHP
K4PV	275	545	870	78	5	1753	79	276,816	SOHP
K4VUD	73	207	809	2	0	1091	78	170,196	SOHP
N4TO	94	44	41	56	0	235	67	31,490	SOHP
N4GI	0	17	1 34	0	0	151	52	15,704	SOHP
W4IX	242	48	384	328	29	1031	78	160,836	SOLP
W4FCG	60	141	325	341	2	869	79	137,302	SOLP
KG4KD						445	77	68,530	SOLP
KC4HW	12	649	30	8	5	380	71	53,960	SOLP
N4KW						315	74	46,620	SOLP
AA4RX	64	83	106	56	0	309	70	43,260	SOLP
N1PA						260	75	39,000	SOLP
W4EBA	7	50	91	28	0	176	65	28,880	SOLP
KB4N	45	17	76	23	0	161	60	19,320	SOLP
K8OSF	2	28	46	58	4	138	52	14,352	SOLP
K9OM						190	59	22,420	SOQRP
K5KG	203	310	396	287	20	1216	80	194,560	U
W4ARM	0	306	278	47	45	676	71	95,992	U
N2NL	15	37	75	56	34	217	73	31,682	U
W4ZW	2	1	157	30	0	191	71	21,122	U
K4KG	59	149	19	0	0	227	66	29,964	U K5KG
NJ4M	94	784	484	433	2	1797	80	287,520	MS @ K1TO K4LOG K8NZ WD4AHZ K1TO
N4FCG	0	461	715	546	0	1722	78	265,044	MS @ N4BP K4PG N4BP W4OV K2WR
K4FCG	4	38	164	11	0	217	63	27,342	MS at W1YL K4LW K4OJ
Totals:								2,407,628	

ARRL
160 METER
CONTEST
Claimed Scores

High Power
N4PN 1214 77+34 277,611 salt water vertical
NU4Y 441 62+10 65,880
N4TB 401 68 56,780 new killer inverted-L
K5KG 177 49+9 22,272
K1UM 57 36 4428

Low Power
W4I X/p 419 56+7 54,117 wire from hotel balcony!
K4GKD 238 50+7 28,500
K4MM 215 52+7 26,786
KN4Y 200 46+3 20,041
N4EK 160 42+4 15,272
WD4AHZ 138 38+3 11,808
K4PB 77 34+1 5495
N4OX +6 worked 6 countries
K9VV 1 1 2 worked N4PN using 40M antenna!

ARRL SS CW Claimed Scores

Multiop High Power									
K4OJ	15	309	566	194	116	1200	79	188,652	
Unlimited									
W4ZW	0	252	36	69	69	426	79	67,308	HP
KC4HW	9	54	14	28	28	133	72	19,152	LP 8 Hrs
High Power									
K4PV	43	299	232	223	82	879	77	135,058	
K1TO	19	341	116	292	0	768	78	119,808	9.6 hrs
K4WJ	28	133	103	113	111	488	76	74,176	
K4LQ	30	47	150	125	64	426	75	63,900	11.26 hrs
W1MO						287	69	39,606	6.5 hrs
NA4O						157	58	18,212	3 hrs WC4E
W4JN	0	18	10	22	57	107	48	10,272	
Low Power									
NP2B						1190	78	185,640	N4BP
K9OM	153	199	268	238	155	1039	79	160,054	24 hrs
N4WW	60	212	488	193	21	974	78	151,944	24 hrs KOLUZ
K5KG	82	279	170	212	148	891	79	140,778	24 hrs
W4SAA	0	212	185	248	67	712	78	111,072	22 hrs
N4GI	8	117	171	392	18	706	77	108,724	17 hrs
NU4Y	14	119	122	308	0	563	76	85,576	15 hrs
K4GKD	48	134	96	166	86	530	78	82,860	14 hrs
W4QM	0	104	120	158	128	515	78	80,340	
K9VV	0	134	107	189	71	501	76	76,152	10.9 hrs
N4TB	14	79	118	204	36	451	73	65,700	
WD4AHZ	0	21	114	121	30	286	64	36,608	6 hrs
N2NL	4	12	35	180	19	250	67	33,500	+ Justin and Andrew
K4LW									
N4TO	14	60	43	42	1	222	69	30,636	
N4KW						160	65	20,800	3 hrs
N4KK	0	0	38	31	42	164	61	19,886	
KB4N	7	38	26	0	0	111	47	10,434	AJ2U @ K4FAU
						71	44	6,248	
QRP									
K4XS	64	148	311	198	45	766	79	121,028	23 hrs
FCG Total								2,147,278	
FCG Panhandle									
K4PV	43	299	232	223	82	879	77	135,058	
N4PN	87	286	298	206	61	938	80	150,080	23 hrs (GA)
NF4A	27	94	58	184	67	430	79	67,940	8.2 hrs
KD5M	17	48	55	0	0	120	55	13,200	
Total								366,278	

Pictures & Notes from around the club

The final day of outside antenna work for the planned W1CW CQWW c.w. multioperator extravaganza also featured an FCG-themed farewell party for departing new member Norbert Moravansky, OM6NM. Left to right are K1TO, K1KNQ, OM6NM, WC4E and K4OJ. W1YL hosted the day and took the photo.



Thanks to W1YL for BPL Fund Contribution

To the Florida Contest Group, W1CW Memorial Fund:

"Thank you for joining the campaign to fight Broadband Over Power Lines. Your gift of \$100 will provide vital resources to help us fight this new threat. Action on Access BPL and vigilance on other spectrum issues requires significant financial resources. Your support will provide vital funding for our efforts to monitor this issue in all corners of government, and to conduct the tests to build our case. With your support, ARRL representatives can keep watchful eyes on those who would short-change Amateur Radio. With your support, our technical staff can prepare engineering studies to refute industry claims that certain new technologies can peacefully coexist with hams. With your support, our staff can work with industry to develop techniques to minimize potential interference to amateur operations. Threats to Amateur Radio increase every year, and we must expand our efforts to meet the challenges to your hard-earned privileges." -- *Mary M. Hobart, K1MMH, Chief Development Officer, ARRL.*

IS SO2R NEW? K1KNQ STATION, SHREWSBURY, MA. CQWWSSB 1969



LEFT TO RIGHT

Heathkit SB220, Heathkit SB301, Heathkit SB401, Heathkit Station Console Heathkit SB200, Collins 32S1, Collins 75S3

Out of picture on right is Collins 516F2 PS and another rotor control

Above SB301 is an Ameco preamp.

Below Collins equipment is an earphone switchbox, either rcvr or both.

If you look real close in lower left is Brown Brothers straight key!!!

Under SB200 is a power supply for a home brew dual 813 amp. which was not used.

From the Reflector -

Just read through the QST article and saw NW5E prominently mentioned several times. Gary had the second highest QSO total in the USA on 6M and tied for second in grid multipliers, behind FCGer Ivars, KC4PX. Nice job, guys!

WC4H is also mentioned in the writeup

With just 5 entries, we finished in the middle of the pack in the club competition

73, Dan K1TO

N4BP at NP2B for SS CW



Left: Bob N4BP making QSO # 1000 at NP2B during the November SS CW Contest



Above: L-R, Vic N4TO, Dan K1TO, Fred K4LQ in George K5KG's shack. Ye ed is checking out the IC-756 Pro II. I liked it and bought one!

Left: N4BP, NP2B, NP2C,



Laurie , N1IN, KV4JC at a get together at Cheeseburgers In Paradise Friday night before SS

Below: KT34XA & 2 element 40M at NP2B



Above and below, the neat shack and tower installation of John W4IX in Port Saint Lucie FL



CQWW SSB Claimed Scores

Call	Q	Z	C	Score	Category	At M/S Stations using both
N2NL	892	98	320	1,031,206	SOABHP	FCGmembers and non-members,
K4LQ	576	79	238	509,736	SOABHP	bold type = FCG Members
K4RFK	439	67	191	300,312	SOABHP	
N8PR	398	62	198	289,120	SOABHP	
W1MO	345	54	154	195,936	SOABHP	
W4JN	127	30	72	35,394	SOABHP	
N4IG	880	83	283	888,282	SOABLP	
K4GKD	780	98	277	792,375	SOABLP	
N1PA	511		208	385,203	SOABLP	
KK4TA	506	76	186	371,778	SOABLP	
N4EK	501	69	203	370,736	SOABLP	
K4HV	457	68	212	350,560	SOABLP	
NJ2F	430	75	189	307,296	SOABLP	
W4YA	300	57	160	171,647	SOABLP	
KE1F	320	53	151	170,340	SOABLP	
W4EBA	293	48	130	139,018	SOABLP	
K9VV	155	54	107	62,468	SOABLP	
K8OSF	150	43	86	56,889	SOABLP	
AB4RL	123	39	84	38,868	SOABLP	
K1HG	103	29	60	24,030	SOABLP	
N4WW	1138	133	449	1,825,734	SOABHP(A)	
W4ARM	477	66	203	334,367	SOABHP(A)	
W4ZW	79	28	52	15,600	SOABHP(A)	
N4BP	1264	30	111	475,029	SOSB10HP	
				735,141	Other Bands	
N4GM	178	27	85	56,000	SOSB10LP(A)	
N4CC	415	28	100	152,192	SOSB15HP	
K4MM	367	30	109	144,004	SOSB15LP	
K9AW	173	25	91	54,752	SOSB20LP	
K4XS	480	28	105	183,540	SOSB40HP	
K4VUD	189	16	58	29,674	SOSB80HP	
K1UM	103	16	42	11,078	SOSB80HP	
VE3EJ	7339	165	620	7,203,552	M/S	(14,407,105 Total Score) VE7ZO, K5KG
K9ES	2121	137	477	3,354,896	M/S	3,354,896 Total Score K9ES, OM6NM, AD4ES, KG8B, N6WS KC4HW, WO4D, KI4TG, KG4IPO K4LOG, K4SXY, WD4AHZ K9VV, AB4RL, AJ2U K1KNQ, WK2G, K4OJ K9VV, AB4RL N4TO, W4IX, T93M, K1TO, W4SAA
NJ4M	700	91	269	675,720	M/S	
K4FAU	313	57	150	178,020	M/S	
K4FCG	133	36	83	39,746	M/S	
N4KK	29	12	23	2,660	M/S	
N4TO	3631	152	591	7,145,431	M2	
PJ2T	12533	159	608	11,320,000	M2	28,300,000 Total Score K1AR, WC4E, K8NZ, W1MD, N8BJQ,
VP5DX				1,740,000		12,190,502 Total Score AB4UF, K4UTE, N4EPD, N4KE, NF4L, NU4Y, WA4ET
KP3Z				10,300,000		NP4Z
V47DM				3,159,120		11,747,736 Total Score V44NK, W4GKA, K2DM, K3ZM W9NY, AD4J
		Club	Total	55,627,450		
		FCG Panhandle Scores				
KD5M	684	92	270	655,944	SOABHP	
N4PN	2607	155	532	4,843,350	M/S	N4PN, N4OX, K4PV, KB4ET, NF4A
		Panhandle Total		5,499,294		

CQWW CW Claimed Scores

K1TO	2720	144	446	4,557,216	SOABHP
W4QM	981	112	347	1,270,971	SOABHP
K4PV	1327	98	271	1,229,887	SOABHP
W1MO	926	97	305	1,089,375	SOABHP
W4/G4BUE	900	85	236	785,166	SOABHP
K4PB	479	95	249	454,080	SOABHP
W4FDA	369	88	305	413,436	SOABHP
K4WJ	223	62	121	112,545	SOABHP
KC4HW	100	37	90	35,433	SOABHP
K4GKD	1175	129	401	1,743,700	SOABLP
N4PSE	1065	115	362	1,421,460	SOABLP
N4IG	1033	109	337	1,306,334	SOABLP
K4MM	897	124	384	1,276,604	SOABLP
KE1F	471		311	403,367	SOABLP
W4UUM				273,738	SOABLP
N4EK	292	55	156	172,176	SOABLP
K9ES/M	220	56	130	110,298	SOABLP
KU3O	272	56	130	110,298	SOABLP
KB4N	225	54	120	105,618	SOABLP
WD4AHZ	250	41	104	102,950	SOABLP
W4EBA	205	52	119	94,932	SOABLP
K4HV	163	55	108	73,024	SOABLP
N1PA	144	52	125	73,393	SOABLP
NP4Z	1687	91	223	1,207,644	SOABQRP
K5KG	2052	157	528	3,977,110	SOABHP (A)
K1PT	1338	137	440	2,179,906	SOABHP (A)
NU4Y	920	137	458	1,526,175	SOABHP (A)
N2NL	521	125	349	673,080	SOABHP (A)
K4LQ	500	92	260	504,008	SOABHP (A)
W4ZW	489	87	245	438,904	SOABHP (A)
W4ARM	329	65	166	200,739	SOABQRP (A)
K9OM	1174	32	111	484,770	SO10HP
N4GM	737	33	112	301,600	SO10HP (A)
WB4TDH	569	21	110	224,280	SO15LP
N4DL	82	16	44	12,960	SO15QRP
4M5X	3450	39	140	1,750,000	SO20HP W4SO
K9AW	200	31	108	76,867	SO20LP
N4CC	321	26	87	100,231	SO80HP
K1UM	91	18	50	15,504	SO80HP
VE3EJ	7467	184	629	4,068,055	M2 16271382 Total Score VE3EJ, W4/VE7ZO , VE3FU, K8PO
N4WW	3640	167	591	7,783,920	M2 N4WW, K0LUZ
W1CW	5705	181	621	12,270,000	MM K1KNQ, K4LW, K4OJ, N4BP, N4GI, N4KM, W1FJ, W1YL, W4IX, W4SAA WC4E. WK2G
9A1A	12,577	206	736	4,247,609	Team includes N4PN and NF4A FCG will get scores from 2 of 11 ops Total score for 9A1A was 23,338,512
		Club	Total	59,259,263	
		FCG Panhandle Scores			
KD5M	1026	128	375	1,439,586	SOABHP
KN4Y	632	74	237	456,548	SOABLP
W1MD	1231	30	112	459,938	SO15HP
		Panhandle Total		2,356,082	
FCG Totals for CQWW CW and SSB				114,886,813	
FCG Panhandle Combined Totals				7,855,366	

Save the Hambands

By Fred Kleber K9VV



I've read with interest the latest postings regarding the ARRL's new license structuring proposal. As a professional in the wireless industry for many years, I have seen commercial (2-way, LEO, cellular, PCS, etc.) and non-commercial (amateur, governmental, etc) entities vie for the precious resource of spectrum.

When working at Motorola during the dawn of cellular in the early '80s, I recall seeing promotional badges which read, "800 MHz - It's Clear Up Here!". I remember in the late '80s when someone commented to me that there were no longer any free 2m amateur repeater pairs in Southern California. I've seen QRM levels on the HF bands grow steadily during my 25+ years as an amateur. The 2 GHz point-to-point common carrier service was displaced by the 1.9 GHz PCS service. I'm sure there are many other examples that illustrate spectral competition. One by-product of this competition is that new services / users have been pushed higher and higher (read GHz) in the spectrum.

US amateurs are fortunate to enjoy more bands than many other countries of the world. Many countries do not enjoy the benefits of the WARC bands or the 50 and 220 MHz bands that American amateurs do. Too often, we neglect to remember this spectral resource is provided to amateurs free of cost. There are many commercial entities, which would love to use current amateur spectrum for profitable purposes. ("frequency vultures") The commercial value of this spectrum has been confirmed by governmental spectrum auctions in many countries. As an example, in the US, the 1.9 GHz PCS auctions alone netted in excess of US\$10B!

The public service argument is one, which is often used to defend amateur spectrum. The advent and wide-spread use of today's cellular and PCS systems may lead some to question the "value added" of amateur public assistance during times of need. This, in-turn, could be construed by some as "lessening" the spectral value.

Many commercial services view the amateur community as an easy target for new spectrum. A review of Dave Sumner's (K1ZZ) QST editorials would yield a history of "hostile take-over" attempts of amateur spectrum by commercial entities. Recent attempts in the V/UHF and microwave amateur bands are just a few. The successful take-over of 2 MHz of the US 220 MHz amateur band was a wake-up call to the amateur fraternity.

The battle front has escalated in frequency, both in periodicity and MHz. Does it matter to a frequency vulture if his next "meal" is a contester, DXer, traffic handler, packet node or shack-on-the belt type? Nope. Does it matter whether the

"meal" knows the code, has been licensed since he/she was in dippers, has a Collins rig, or builds his/her own equipment? Nope again. V/UHF and microwave frequencies are the current ripe feeding grounds for the frequency vultures.

So what's the best way to protect our (amateur service as a whole) frequencies? As in democratic government, there is strength in numbers. Also, it's no secret that the amateur service is a graying sector in the US. The no-code entry class licenses are an effective way to increase the amateur population and activity on the most vulnerable bands.

Like it or not, by virtue of being the largest fraternal organization (in the US), the ARRL is the de-facto voice of the US amateur community. The ARRL endeavors to represent the views the amateur fraternity through feedback via established channels. As in any organization of its size, the ARRL has controversial issues with which it must deal.

Similar to a family, the amateur fraternity needs to resolve internal differences while presenting a unified position to the "frequency vultures". Just as America has opened her arms to immigrants of all lands, we must promote our hobby to all interest groups. This includes packing the V/UHF and microwave bands with a buzz of amateur activity. Failure to do so effectively will relegate us exclusively to the Internet.

In summary:

- Spectrum is a precious and finite resource
- US amateurs enjoy free use of the significant amounts of spectrum
- Many non-amateurs view this use as "hobbies" and low "value added"
- Amateur spectrum is highly valued by commercial communications services
- Amateur spectrum is seen as an "easy meal" with little resistance
- "Frequency vultures" feast on all spectrum users, CODE AND NO-CODE
- There is strength in numbers to combat commercial interest in amateur spectrum
- The ARRL is the unified voice of US amateurs
- Resolve internal differences & present a unified front to "frequency vultures"
- Failure to protect amateur spectrum through numbers is likely to severely stunt hobby growth

Now go enjoy this wonderful hobby of ours and take it upon yourself to keep the ranks growing!

73,
Fred, K9VV

The ARRL Contest Rate Sheet

The ARRL Contest Rate Sheet offers a useful source of timely information for both the active and casual contestant. The Rate Sheet includes information about events during the following two-week period, time-sensitive news items, upcoming deadlines, and other news of interest to testers.

The ARRL Contest Rate Sheet is available to ARRL members via email free of charge directly from ARRL HQ.

ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site, <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of the ARRL Contest Rate Sheet

Members may subscribe to the ARRL Contest Rate Sheet by going to the Member Data Page at: <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/memdata.html?modify=1> Note that you must be logged in to the site to access this page. Scroll down to the section "Which of the following would you like to receive automatically via email from ARRL?" Check the box for "ARRL Contest Rate Sheet (biweekly contest newsletter)" and you're all set. Past issues are available at <http://www.arrl.org/rate-sheet/>. Issues are posted to this page after publication.

A number of FCG members already subscribe, and find this newsletter to be a useful source of contest information.

Tampa Bay / WCF Convention FCG Hosted Contest Forum

By Dan KITO

Danny, T93M led off with a nice presentation of pictures and commentary from last weekend's KP2/N4EXA 15M SB effort in WW CW. With very simple antennas, but a nice location, Danny had well over 2000 QSOs. Several pictures of the WP2Z QTH show what a dramatic dropoff in all directions is available there! The owner of the house that Danny rented is anxious to host other hams and it was just \$700 + tax for the week.

Danny also showed a few pictures of a Cushcraft X-7 being raised in Bosnia by T93Y, T97M and some friends. The tower literally sticks up THROUGH the building that they operate and sleep in! Interestingly, Danny designed the X-7 while working for Cushcraft in NH. T9 is easy to operate from, being in the CEPT group. Just use T9/your call!

Pizza then arrived, courtesy of the FCG (and thanks to K5KG for coordinating, along with sodas, etc). 10 pizzas were gone before you could yell "Cheese" and take a picture.

George, K5KG then gave a very nice demo of the Writelog contesting software, complete with his Icom rig, computer control and a CW interface. Writelog has evolved into a solid alternative to the old standards - CT, NA and TR-log.

Jeff, WC4E provided some handouts with QSO breakdowns by hour for his last 3 Mixed efforts in the ARRL 10-Meter Contest and discussed them, along with a write-up of suggestions. Jeff believes that a sporadic-E opening is likely this year based on the sunspot number. Such an opening can add hundreds of QSOs to your log, so watch out for them in the late afternoon and evening especially. With the declining SSN, expect shorter openings to Europe and JA, but still expect long openings to the USA. An e-mail to wc4e@innet.com can get you e-copies of those documents, I'm sure.

Ellen, W1YL assembled a great picture show giving everyone a look at the activities leading up to and including the CQWW CW test during which 10 or so FCGers activated W1CW in the Multi-Multi category.

Several non-members were spotted in the room and a printed copy of the latest Gazette, thanks to K5KG, found its way into each prospective new member's hands.

FCGers spotted in the forum or known to be attending included: AA4RX, AG4PN, K1KNQ, K1TO, K4GKD, K4NW, K4XS, K4XSS, K5KG, K8DSS, N4LML, T93M, W1ROX, W4ZW, WC4E, WD4AHZ. Guests, some of whom are prospective members, included: K1RQ/4, K8XF, N4NSS & 2 friends, N4ZC, W3RU?, W8ISZ, NA4AR, several others

**CLAIMED SCORES
ARRL 10 METER CONTEST**

WC4E	2404	240	1,654,400	SO/MIXED/HP	<i>Ed Note: Scores are as of publication date, maybe more to come!</i>
K5KG	1726	240	1,269,120	SO/MIXED/HP	
NU4Y	1589	215	1,047,050	SO/MIXED/HP	
K4LQ	1106	197	753,328	SO/MIXED/HP	
N4TO	367	130	157,820	SO/MIXED/HP	
N8PR	172	102	52,428	SO/MIXED/HP	

K4GKD	851	199	534,912	SO/MIXED/LP
K4MM	803	212	505,382	SO/MIXED/LP
N4IG	739	181	455,758	SO/MIXED/LP
KB4N	504	131	215,102	SO/MIXED/LP
W4EBA	303	132	129,888	SO/MIXED/LP
K9ES	291	104	96,720	SO/MIXED/LP
N4EK	261	99	79,794	SO/MIXED/LP
K8OSF	152	73	30,076	SO/MIXED/LP
KC4HW	116	62	24,552	SO/MIXED/LP
K4RFK	135	63	17,010	SO/MIXED/LP

K9OM	731	190	432,440	SO/MIXED/QRP
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N4BP	1698	124	842,208	SO/CW/HP
K4OJ	1541	128	799,504	SO/CW/HP
K0LUZ	1277	126	643,608	SO/CW/HP
N4TB	828	116	383,264	SO/CW/HP
W4QM	718	108	311,472	SO/CW/HP
W1MO	561	100	223,600	SO/CW/HP
N4GI	523	98	205,408	SO/CW/HP
K4WJ	362	85	123,420	SO/CW/HP

WD4AHZ	850	111	378,288	SO/CW/LP
N4GM	722	105	301,560	SO/CW/LP
WK2G	630	88	221,760	SO/CW/LP
N2NL/MM	459	90	165,060	SO/CW/LP
W4YA	433	72	124,704	SO/CW/LP
W4SAA	245	73	71,832	SO/CW/LP
AA4Z	192	64	49,152	SO/CW/LP
KE1F	156	67	41,808	SO/CW/LP
AJ2U	93	36	13,536	SO/CW/LP
K4PG	34	20	2,720	SO/CW/LP

K4DDR	111	51	11,322	SO/SSB/HP
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W4IX	1469	134	393,692	SO/SSB/LP
K4VUD	1076	120	258,240	SO/SSB/LP
NJ2F	793	108	171,228	SO/SSB/LP
N1PA	349	87	60,726	SO/SSB/LP
AA4RX	259	92	47,656	SO/SSB/LP
K1KNQ	165	66	21,780	SO/SSB/LP
K1HG	150	64	19,200	SO/SSB/LP

K1PT	1194	121	577,896	SO/CW/HP(A)(MS)
K9VV	619	100	337,620	SO/MIXED/LP(A)(MS)
W4ZW	502	124	237,584	SO/MIXED/HP(A)(MS)

NE4AA	2891	264	2,374,994	MS at K1TO	K1TO, K6AW
W4/G4BUE	953	183	568,398	M/S	G4BUE, M0BUE

KG4WW			114,534	SO/SSB/LP	KX4WW
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V47UY	890	84	151,368	M/S	KJ4UY, V44NK
				(Dxpedition scores not allowed in club totals)	

FCG Total:			17,439,020		
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FCG Panhandle

N4OX	2084	119	495,952	SO/SSB/HP
KN4Y	630	88	221,760	SO/CW/LP
K4JAF	306	87	53,418	SO/SSB/LP
NF4A	163	61	25,620	SO/MIXED/HP
KB4ET	143	80	22,880	SO/SSB/LP
		Total	819,630	

W1CW Operation in CQWW

By Jim White K4OJ



Thanks, W1CW

After Hurricane Andrew left their Homestead home ruined, Bob and Ellen White (W1CW, W1YL) were persuaded to move to the Tampa area where Jim (K4OJ) their son had moved the year before.

After finding a location which had great ham radio opportunity W1CW decided to "have some fun" and started work on designing a respectable station capable of doing well on the HF bands in contests.

After the first few towers went up, it was decided that the station would be a home for new contesters in the Florida Contest Group to get some exposure to contesting at a multi-op. Many hams passed through the W1CW station on the appropriate weekends.

This Summer, W1YL and K4OJ decided that since November marked the one year anniversary of the passing of W1CW it would be fun to honor him with a contest operation in the CQ WW CW. W1CW was a member of the CQ DX Hall of Fame and a showing of the new W1CW club callsign in the Worldwide would be fitting.

Over the course of the Summer many FCG members helped bring the aging station back to life. While K4OJ had plans for adding all kinds of antennas, the Summer turned into a series of repairing and replacing of feedlines and rotators. An electrician was hired and four 220V outlets were added to the porch on the back of the house. The screen doors were replaced with French doors and the old porch became a room on the house...

Runs of coax and control cables brought into the porch as well as the wonderful Cat4E LAN computer network. 10 through 40 meter operations during the CQWW

CW memorial were manned on "the porch". All four bands were able to have two men manning them - a runner and a tuner/spot chaser... The traditional shack had 80 and 160 meters in it. Being Florida these were left as "one man bands".

The dirty dozen were assembled for the weekend carnage and, surpassed the 5200 QSO target set by K4OJ to end up at 5705 X 181 Zones X 621 Countries, DXCC on 40 meters and up... 83 countries on 80 and 33 on 160.

Our operator contingent was: K1KNQ, K4LW, K4OJ, N4BP, N4GI, N4KM, W1FJ, W1YL, W4IX, W4SAA, WC4E, and WK2G. The FCG will net about 11.25 Million points.

The pictures show some of the operation. W1YL and K4OJ wish to thank the other operators and those who helped resurrect the station over the Summer... we look forward to more multi-multi operations, please contact K4OJ if you would like to join us in the next MM operation.

AR

K4OJ



The guy to whose memory the operation was dedicated. Bob White W1CW (SK)



***K4LW, N4GI, K4OJ, N4BP, W1FJ, WK2G,
N4KM, WC4E, W4IX***
*Operators missing from photo are W1YL, K1KNQ
and W4SAA*



*Ellen W1YL takes a break from hosting the op-
eration to spend a little time behind the key.*



Friday Evening Dinner—Go get em!



N4GI setting up the 80 Meter position



Master of the "Cat4E Network": WC4E



***Setting up the "CAT4E NETWORK" K4OJ and
WC4E***



*Far End N4BP on 10, 15: blocked WC4E,
blocked but you can see the orange shirt K4OJ
20: W4IX and W1FJ 40: K4LW*



*Facing camera: N4BP on 10
Down the table to his right are the sparkplug
boys: WC4E and WK2G on 15,
W4IX and W1FJ on 20, and N4KM on 40*



K4OJ anticipating electrocution (Didn't happen)



*W4IX and W1FJ on 20, and K4LW second chair-
ing 40 meters*



*Al W1FJ relaxes
between stints
on 20 meters*



K1KNQ says he may not make a lot of CW QSOs but he does know how to tune up the rig on CW!



Taking a break: W4SAA, K1KNQ and W1FJ

And last but not least, Thanksgiving at K4LQ, L to R June M0BUE, Chris G4BUE, Vic N4TO, Clive GM3POI and Terry. Clive and Terry were enjoying their first Thanksgiving dinner. FCCgers will recognize Clive as the only European so far to work all Florida counties in the FQP!



The afternoon ceremonial passing of the rotor box from 10 to 40 meters... the 40 meter yagi shares a common mast with the high 4 element 10 meter beam



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