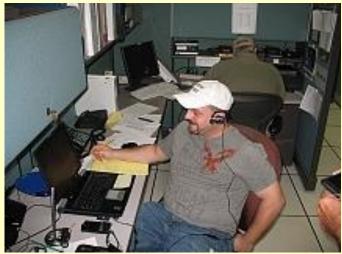
NWS Melbourne, Florida

2008 SKYWARN™ Recognition Day Results



Brian, KI4HLW, operating Echolink



Ray, KI4RHL, operating VHF



Don, AF4Z & George, K4PX working 40m HF



Max, KJ4EUT & Corey, KJ4FHW working 20m HF



GAP Voyager, CL33 rotatable beam & VHF tower



Portable VHF towers with 2m & 6m VHF beams

During the first weekend of December, the National Weather Service Office in Melbourne, Florida supported SKYWARN[™] Recognition Day for the 10th consecutive year. The event for Amateur Radio (ham) operators was held from 7 pm Friday December 5 until 7 pm Saturday December 6 and was co-sponsored by the **National Weather Service** and the **American Radio Relay League**. The event is held each year to celebrate the contributions that ham radio operators make to the National Weather Service during times of critical weather. During the event, hams across the country contact as many other NWS offices as possible using their radio equipment. The contacts are received and logged at the individual NWS offices by volunteer amateur radio operators and licensed NWS staff.

During the 2008 special event, operations from NWS Melbourne included two High Frequency (HF) stations, two Very High Frequency (VHF) stations, a digital station (radio teletype) and a PC-based EchoLink (VoIP) station. HF operations utilized the 20, 40, 80 and 160-meter bands with both SSB (voice) and CW (morse code) modes. Antennas used were two rotatable beams at 35 feet (primarily 20-meters), a GAP Voyager (40, 80, 160-meters), a GAP Titan (digital modes) and three rotatable beams at 35 feet for VHF (2-6-meters). Amateur Radio operators from the Treasure Coast Weather Net (TCWN) and Martin County ARES/RACES participated as well as operators from several groups in Brevard County (Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society, Indian River Amateur Radio Club and the Florida Contest Group). Several licensed NWS Melbourne meteorologists (<u>East Central Florida SKYWARN™ Group</u>) also operated during the event. The NWS Melbourne East Central Florida SKYWARNTM Group special call-sign WX4MLB was used.

NWS Melbourne thanks the individuals who supported the event, including those assisting with antenna and station set-up, those who loaned equipment, and of

course the dedicated operators. We also appreciate the work of the many individuals who provide valuable SKYWARNTM communications services and severe weather reports throughout the year - and we thank the hundreds of radio operators who took the time and effort to 'work' us during the event. Finally, GAP Antenna Products, Inc. is recognized for providing use of the GAP Voyager.

The 2008 preliminary results:

Total Contacts: 1191 States Contacted: 50 NWS Stations Contacted: 74 Countries Contacted: 38 Bands: 2, 20, 40, 80, 160 meters Modes: SSB, CW, Packet, RTTY, PSK31, Echolink

Radio Operators & Assistance Provided by:

Eric Smitt - K9ES Donn Winn - AF4Z Ken Hendrickson - N8KH Dan Fisher - AI4GK Aaron Mitchell - KJ4DDM George Fundis - K4PX Bob Dupre - KJ4MAY Joel McDonald - N4URW John Weatherley - AB4ET Jack Seeley - KI4LTB Chuck Green - AD4ES Pete Fountain - WD4IXD Max Fountain - KJ4EUT Greg O'Neill - AB4GO Bob Kisko - N4VO John Golebiewski - KF4PFI Wayne Burkett, SR - KA1VRF Mathew Nickoson - KC8NZJ Mark Timblin - AI4HO Brian Cook - KI4HLW Dwaine Dunkin - K4LNN Bud Holman - WA4ASJ Vincent Weal - K4JC Scott Trudeau - KI4RNK John Conefrey - W4IVW Ray Jaworski - KI4RHL Joy McGraw - ND9N Frank McGraw - N3QU Corey McGraw - KJ4FHW Keith Boyer - N4TRN Eric Zelaya Scott Spratt - KT4PD Pete Blottman - N2RFW Don Burkhardt **Bill Bennett**

FCG **Brevard County - PCARS Brevard County - PCARS** FCG FCG **Brevard County - IRARC** Brevard County - IRARC TCWN **TCWN** TCWN **TCWN** TCWN **TCWN** TCWN TCWN TCWN Martin Co. ARES/RACES Martin Co. ARES/RACES Martin Co. ARES/RACES Martin Co. ARES/RACES **Orange County SKYWARN** Orange County SKYWARN NWS NWS NWS

NWS

John Pendergrast - KC5SVA	NWS		
Derrick Weitlich - W1DKW	NWS		
Bart Hagemeyer	NWS		
Roddey Stevenson	NWS		
Dennis Decker - KB4TYM	NWS		
Mike Turner - KG4YRC	NWS		
GAP Antenna Products			
North Brevard SKYWARN Association			
Titusville Amateur Radio Club			
Indian River Amateur Radio Club			
Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society			
Treasure Coast Weather Net			
Volusia County SKYWARN			
Seminole County SKYWARN			
Orange Co. Emerg Auxiliary Radio Team			
Disney Emerg Amateur Radio Service			
Lake County ARES			
Okeechobee County ARES			
St. Lucie County ARES			
Osceola County ARES			
Martin County SKYWARN Association			

For questions, comments, feedback, please email <u>Scott Spratt</u>. To receive a QSL card from WX4MLB, please send an your card along with an SASE to: NWS Melbourne, 421 Croton Road, Melbourne, FL 32935. Electronic QSLs can be exchanged via . For certificate information, <u>click here.</u>

YEAR	<u>Total</u>	NWS	<u>States</u>	<u>DX</u>	Contacts
_	Contacts	Contacts	_	Countries	nation-wide
1999	279	20	38	7	
2000	489	38	43	12	
2001	276	33	48	3	
2002	388	35	44	29	
2003	538	42	43	20	
2004	<mark>1524</mark>	68	49	<mark>57</mark>	1st Place
2005	778	71	49	20	3rd Place
2006	921	70	50	24	2nd Place
2007	930	64	47	17	<mark>1st Place</mark>
2008	1191	<mark>74</mark>	<mark>50</mark>	40	???

Annual Statistics from WFO Melbourne (local records)

2008 SKYWARN[™] Recognition Day Official Website