NWS Melbourne, Florida 2010 SKYWARN™ Recognition Day Results

Pictures From This Year's Event



Chuck, AD4ES, operating 40m HF



Wayne, KA1VRF and Mat, KC8NZJ operating Echolink



Levon, KT4LST, and Melinda, KJ4YTG, working 40 and 80m HF



Operators working 20m HF



CL-33 rotatable beam



R-7000 Vertical Antenna

During the first weekend of December, the National Weather Service Office in Melbourne, Florida supported SKYWARN[™] Recognition Day for the 12 consecutive year. The event for Amateur Radio (ham) operators was held from 7 pm Friday December 3 until 7 pm Saturday December 4 and was co-sponsored by the NWS (www.weather.gov) and the American Radio Relay League (ARRL; www.arrl.org).

SKYWARN[™] Recognition Day (SRD) provides a venue for National Weather Service (NWS) offices to recognize Amateur ("ham") Radio operators for their commitment in helping keep their communities weathersafe. During every tropical weather threat, and many other major weather events, Amateur Radio operators staff local NWS and American Red Cross shelters and stand ready to provide emergency communications should standard services fail or become overloaded. Many Amateur Radio operators are also trained as SKYWARN[™] weather spotters by local NWS offices, to provide valuable information during hazardous weather situations. Often, these spotter reports allow NWS meteorologists to issue severe weather warnings with greater advance notice and confidence than would otherwise be possible.

During the 24-hour event, Amateur Radio operators throughout the country visit their local NWS office, set up portable radio stations to simulate emergency conditions, and work in teams to exchange weather reports with other hams across the nation and the globe.

During the 2010 special event, operations from NWS Melbourne included two High Frequency (HF) stations, a Very High Frequency (VHF) station and a PC-based EchoLink (VoIP) station. HF operations utilized the 10, 15, 20, 40, and 80-meter bands. Antennas used were a rotatable beam at 35 feet (10, 15, 20-meters), a vertical beam (10, 15, 20, 40-meters), a rotatable beam at 35 feet for VHF (2 meters), and a 40/80M dipole. Amateur Radio operators from the Treasure Coast Weather Net (TCWN) and Martin County ARES/RACES participated as well as operators from groups in Brevard County (Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society and the Florida Contest Group). Licensed NWS Melbourne meteorologists also operated during the event. The NWS Melbourne East Central Florida SKYWARN[™] 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.

The 2010 preliminary results:

Total Contacts: 292 States Contacted: 43 NWS Stations Contacted: 35 Countries Contacted: 6 Bands: 2, 10, 15, 20, 40, 80 meters Modes: SSB, Echolink

Radio Operators & Assistance Provided by:

Chuck Green - AD4ES Lynn Deffenbaugh - KJ4ERJ John Weatherlev - AB4ET Eric Smitt - K9ES Wayne Burkett, SR - KA1VRF Mathew Nickoson - KC8NZJ Vince Weal - K4JC Ray Jaworski - KI4RHL Judy Tagg - KE4MZT Ron Tagg - KD4PQQ Levon Tomon - KT4LST Melinda Haskell - KJ4YTG Scott Spratt - KT4PD Pete Blottman - N2RFW **Derrick Weitlich - W1DKW** Jonathan Guseman Don Burkhardt Taylor Cox **Roddey Stevenson** Larry Pace 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

Brevard County - PCARS Brevard County - PCARS Brevard County - PCARS FCG **TCWN TCWN TCWN** Martin Co. ARES/RACES Martin Co. ARES/RACES Martin Co. ARES/RACES Lake County ARES Lake County ARES NWS NWS NWS NWS NWS NWS NWS NWS

For questions, comments, feedback, please email <u>Scott Spratt</u> or <u>Derrick Weitlich</u>. To receive a QSL card from WX4MLB after the event, please send your card along with an **SASE** to: NWS Melbourne, 421 Croton Road, Melbourne, FL 32935. Electronic QSLs can be exchanged via EQSL (<u>www.eqsl.cc</u>).

YEAR	Total Contacts	NWS Contacts	<u>States</u>	<u>DX</u> Countries	Contacts 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>	<mark>1st Place</mark>
2005	778	71	49	20	3rd Place
2006	921	70	50	24	2nd Place
2007	930	64	47	17	1st Place
2008	1192	74	50	40	2nd Place
2009	1373	<mark>77</mark>	<mark>50</mark>	43	<mark>1st Place</mark>
2010	292	35	43	6	15th Place

Annual Statistics from WFO Melbourne (local records)

2010 SKYWARN[™] Recognition Day Official Website

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