NWS Melbourne, Florida
2012 SKYWARN™ Recognition Day Results

Final results have been compiled for last year's SKYWARN Recognition Day! Please see charts below for more details.

Pictures From This Year's Event

Gap Voyager and 20M Yagi beam

Sandra, KK4ENH, and Paul, N7JNQ, on 15M HF

John, AB4ET, operating on 40M HF

Warren, AE4WG, operating 20M HF

Alan, N3HOE, operating on 15M HF

Ron, KD4PQQ, operating 2M VHF
During the first weekend of December, the National Weather Service Office in Melbourne, Florida supported SKYWARN™ Recognition Day for the 14th consecutive year. The event for Amateur Radio (ham) operators was held from 7 pm November 30th until 7 pm Saturday December 1st and was co-sponsored by the NWS (www.weather.gov) and the American Radio Relay League (ARRL; www.arrl.org). We also hosted a SKYWARN™ Open House from 10 AM to 4 PM on December 1st, where local amateur radio operators and their family members stopped by for tours of event operations and of the National Weather Service office.

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 visited their local NWS office, set up portable radio stations to simulate emergency conditions, and worked in teams to exchange weather reports with other hams across the nation and the globe.
During the 2012 special event here at NWS Melbourne, operations included three 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, 80 and 160-meter bands. Antennas used were two rotatable beams at 35 feet (10, 15, 20-meters), a GAP Voyager (160-meters) antenna, a GAP 20 meter vertical antenna, a rotatable beam at 35 feet for VHF (2 meters), and a 40/80-meter dipole. Amateur Radio operators across east central Florida helped operate through the event, including members of the Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society from Brevard County, the Treasure Coast Weather Net (TCWN), Martin County ARES/RACES, the Daytona Beach Amateur Radio Association, and the Fort Pierce Amateur Radio Club. 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 SKYWARN™ 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. Also, a special thank you goes out to GAP Antenna Products, Inc. for providing us the use of the GAP Voyager and GAP 20M Monobander.

The 2012 final results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Contacts: 978</th>
<th>States Contacted: 50</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NWS Stations Contacted: 74</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countries Contacted: 25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bands: 2, 10, 15, 20, 40, 80, 160 meters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modes: SSB, CW, Echolink</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Radio Operators & Assistance Provided by:

Alan Dixon - N3HOE  
Dan Fisher - AI4GK  
John Gerstner - K4LRP  
Paul Gray - N0JAA  
Chuck Green - AD4ES  
Jan Heise - K4QD  
Ken Hendrickson - N8KH  
Brian Holme - N4ADE  
Sean O'Connell - KK4GBF  
Eric Smitt - K9ES  
Dennis Tokorzewski - KK4AMO  
Vince Weal - K4JC  
John Weatherley - AB4ET  
Wayne Burkett, Sr. - KA1VRF  
Ray Jaworski - K14RHL  
Bill Laakkonen - N4BKT  
Ron Tagg - KD4PQQ  
Paul Tomlins - N7JNQ  
Sandra Tomlins - KK4ENH  
Joe Pelikan - WI0JMP  
Warren Greenburg - AE4WG  
Pete Blottman - N2RFW  

Brevard County - PCARS  
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Brevard County - PCARS  
Brevard County - PCARS  
Brevard County - PCARS  
Brevard County - PCARS  
Brevard County - TCWN  
Brevard County - PCARS  
Indian River County - TCWN  
Martin County - ARES/RACES  
Martin County - ARES/RACES  
Martin County - ARES/RACES  
Martin County - ARES/RACES  
Martin County - ARES/RACES  
Saint Lucie County - TCWN  
Volusia County - DBARC  
NWS Melbourne
For questions, comments, feedback, please email Scott Spratt or Derrick Weitlich. 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 (www.eqsl.cc).

### Annual Statistics from WFO Melbourne (local records)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>Total Contacts</th>
<th>NWS Contacts</th>
<th>States</th>
<th>DX Countries</th>
<th>Contacts nation-wide</th>
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<tr>
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<td>43</td>
<td><strong>1st Place</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>978</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>25</td>
<td><strong>1st Place</strong></td>
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2012 SKYWARN™ Recognition Day Official Website