

NWS Melbourne, Florida 2015 SKYWARN™ Recognition Day Results

Final results have been compiled for this past
SKYWARN Recognition Day!
Please see charts below for more details.

Pictures From This Year's Event



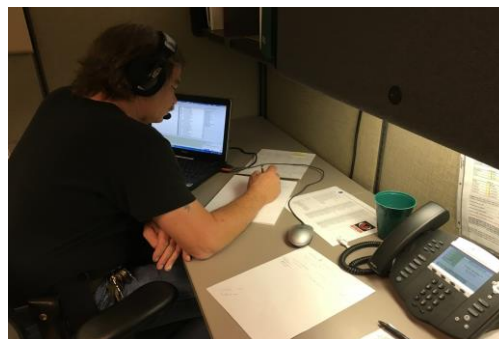
Setting up the A-3S beam on the
MCARA tower



Getting the PCARS tower ready to
raise the A-4S beam



Mike, KE4YGT, and Chuck, AD4ES,
operating on 40M



Dennis, AJ4DT, operating on Echolink



**Vince, K4JC, and Ken, N8KH,
operating on 80M HF**



**Ron, K4OIL, and Duane, K4LNN,
operating HF**



Ray, KI4RHL, on 2M



**KMLB WSR-88D Radar and A-4S
Rotatable Beam**



**MCARA tower and A-3S Rotatable
Beam**



GAP Voyager

During the first weekend of December, the National Weather Service Office in Melbourne, Florida supported SKYWARN™ Recognition Day for the 17th consecutive year. The event for Amateur Radio (ham) operators was held from 7 pm Friday, December 4th until 7 pm Saturday, December 5th 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 Saturday, December 5th, where local amateur radio operators and thier 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 2015 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 and 20-meters), a GAP Voyager antenna (160-meters), a 40/80-meter dipole, and a rotatable beam at 35 feet for VHF (2-meters). Amateur Radio operators across east central Florida helped operate through the event, including members of the Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Society from Brevard County (PCARS), The Vero Beach Amateur Radio Club (VBARC), the Treasure Coast Weather Net (TCWN), Martin County ARES/RACES, and Volusia County ARES. 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.

The 2015 final results:

Total Contacts: 1407
States Contacted: 50
NWS Stations Contacted: 65
Countries Contacted: TBD
Bands: 2, 10, 15, 20, 40, 80, 160 meters
Modes: SSB, CW, FM, Echolink

Radio Operators & Assistance Provided by:

Walter Aucoin Jr. - WB5ZGA	Brevard County - PCARS
Bob Creswick - NB4C	Brevard County - PCARS
Alan Dixon - N3HOE	Brevard County - PCARS
Duane Duncan - K4LNN	Brevard County - VBARC
Michael Edwards - KE4YGT	Brevard County - PCARS
Paul Gray - N0JAA	Brevard County - PCARS
Chuck Green - AD4ES	Brevard County - PCARS
Ken Hendrickson - N8KH	Brevard County - PCARS
Ed Hutchinson - KK4ZWC	Brevard County - PCARS
Doug Imberman - K4IMB	Brevard County - PCARS
Brad Magill - KW1P	Brevard County - PCARS
Mark Roehrig - KM4PDP	Brevard County - PCARS
Eric Smitt - K9ES	Brevard County - PCARS
Dennis Tokarzewski - AJ4DT	Brevard County - VBARC
Devin Velasquez - KK4RLP	Brevard County - VBARC
Vince Weal - K4JC	Brevard County - TCWN
Don Winn - AF4Z	Brevard County - PCARS
Wayne Burkett, Sr. - KA1VRF	Indian River County - TCWN
Gary Webster - N1PZB	Indian River County - VBARC
Eric Boyd - W4ELB	Martin County - ARES/RACES
Ray Jaworski - KI4RHL	Martin County - ARES/RACES
Ron Schoner - K4OIL	Martin County - ARES/RACES
Ron Tagg - KD4PQQ	Martin County - ARES/RACES
Robert Vandevender II - KR2K	Martin County - ARES/RACES
Warren Greenburg - AE4WG	Volusia County - ARES
Pete Blottman - N2RFW	NWS Melbourne
Don Burkhardt	NWS Melbourne
Fred Johnson	NWS Melbourne
Scott Spratt - KT4PD	NWS Melbourne
Roddey Stevenson	NWS Melbourne
Derrick Weitlich - W1DKW	NWS Melbourne
GAP Antenna Products	

For questions, comments, feedback, please email [Scott Spratt](mailto:Scott.Spratt@wfo.com) or [Derrick Weitlich](mailto:Derrick.Weitlich@wfo.com). 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)

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>Total Contacts</u>	<u>NWS Contacts</u>	<u>States</u>	<u>DX Countries</u>	<u>Contacts nation-wide</u>
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	1524	68	49	57	1st Place
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	77	50	43	1st Place
2010	292	35	43	6	15th Place
2011	1604	81	50	43	1st Place
2012	978	74	50	25	1st Place
2013	1024	54	47	21	1st Place
2014	1294	63	50	38	1st Place
2015	1407	65	50	TBD	TBD

[2015 SKYWARN™ Recognition Day Official Website](#)
