



TALES FROM THE SWAMP

March 2018

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From your President:

Greetings fellow Swamp Foxes! We are off to a really good start this year in terms of membership. As you all know, we picked up two new members in January and we have a new member who joined us last month, please welcome Charlie Brown KD4CB from Columbia, SC. It has also been a very active month for our club in contesting activity. Our members entered 12 contests this past month, great going guy! If you have not been active, come on out and join us and at the same time, *rack up those SFOTA Q's!*

Minutes from the January meeting have been posted; you can find them on the [club business page](#) of the SFCG website. They are located about halfway down the page. Preliminary results for the CQ WPX RTTY Contest have been released and can be found [here](#). Final results will be published in the July issue of CQ magazine and simultaneously posted on the CQ WPX RTTY Contest [website](#).

The South Carolina QSO Party has once again come and gone, and this year we had a pretty successful QSO party. Dave WN4AFP has reported that he has had over 250 logs submitted as of date with more on the way most likely! The SCQP committee would like to thank both our club members and the members from the Columbia ARC for helping make this QSO party successful. The bonus operators and mobile stations from both clubs did a fantastic job putting the SC counties on the air, thank you!

Notable Mentions:

Two of our members had birthdays this past month. Russ W4STR celebrated his birthday on February 14 and Gil KS4YX celebrated his birthday on February 16th. Happy belated birthday guys!

Kevan N4XL and his XYL celebrated their 29th wedding anniversary February 14th. On behalf of the entire club, congratulations to the both of you and best wishes for many more!

Brag List:

Kevin N4XL received two plaques for the South Carolina QSO Party.

Member Contributions:

Trip Report to the Orlando Hamfest

Contributed by Bill N4IQ

There are two hamfests that are MUST to see: Dayton and Orlando. I was fortunate to attend both events recently. I've already reported on the 2018 Dayton trip, so here is a report about the Orlando hamfest which is appropriately called "Hamcation": you can truly combine a vacation and a hamfest into one trip.

Have you ever been to the Kennedy Space Center (KSC)? If not, then here is the perfect vacation to add to the hamfest trip. KSC is a relatively short 50 miles from Orlando and is near Titusville, Fl. To give KSC justice, you need to plan a two day visit. I have been to most all of the theme parks in Florida one time or another. While this might be classified as a theme park, it is high class and a real tribute to America's space pioneers and program. NASA has partnered with Delaware North to develop a first rate park to educate the public and inspire the young and old. If you visited KSC 20 or even only 10 years ago, this is not the same exhibit. You must revisit.

My trip was a five day affair and included my two ham brothers, Phil AC4Q and Jon WN4GM. Phil and I live in the Greenville, SC area so we drove together to Titusville on the Wednesday before the hamfest. The trip is nearly a 500 mile trek but it is all interstate and an easy drive. Jon lives in the Orlando area so he met us for breakfast early Thursday morning. Afterwards, a short 15 minute drive brought us to KSC. Wow! What a day! The exhibits are awesome. My favorite was the Atlantis space shuttle which is housed in its own building. Atlantis was the last Space Shuttle to visit the International Space Station. Like all the exhibits, there are auxiliary supporting exhibits that require your time to investigate. I wish I had time to tell you about each display, but I can't, so you will just have to visit KSC yourself. On the second day, Friday, we continued our exploration of KSC and also had a two hour bus tour of the whole space complex. The bus tour included the massive Vehicle

Assembly Building, SpaceX launch pads, and the famous Launch Complex 39A used for the Apollo and Space Shuttle programs.

Did I say we went to Orlando for the hamfest? I almost forgot the hamfest!

Friday night we stayed in Orlando so Jon got to sleep in his own bed. Phil and I stayed in a nearby Best Western motel. Saturday morning was a beautiful, 75 degree, sunny day. This was a typical Florida winter day, just perfect for a hamfest. As we arrived at 9 AM, a long line had already formed at the main gate. When the gates opened at 9:30 AM, the fun began.

All the major radio manufacturers were there: Icom, Elecraft, Flex, Yaesu, Kenwood, etc., each displaying their latest and greatest transceivers. Of course MFJ, Ham Radio Outlet, SteppIR, M-Squared and the rest of the well know ham vendors were present. The hamfest had over 150 commercial booths and over 200 swap tables. Like Dayton, the forums and speakers were outstanding. Phil and I attended two forums on Saturday but unfortunately we missed the Friday forums. Friday night also has a number of banquet dinners suited for DXers, contesters and special interest groups. Hamcation also hosted the 2019 ARRL Southeastern Division Convention. Hamcation is definitely a two day event – Friday and Saturday. Sunday is less well attended and some vendors have already departed along with many of the tailgaters.

The tailgating opportunities are excellent for finding your favorite junk or boat anchor. Friday is the best time to make an early pounce before the best deals are gone. Saturday still has some prizes but Sunday can be disappointing. If you like to “camp” – mainly RVing - this is the hamfest for you. You see row after row of RVs from all over the US and Canada. Great opportunity exists for meeting new friends and socializing with old ham buddies.

Like all adventures, there has to be an end. We spent Saturday night at Jon’s house and were treated to a gourmet dinner while we reminisced about the old times growing up and, of course, our latest ham radio projects and operations. These visits are never long enough.

Sunday was the long trip home. Except for a traffic jam due to an accident on I-26, our trip back was uneventful. When we finally arrived, the weather was typical Greenville: rainy and cold. Where had the sunny, 70 degree weather

gone? (Of course it was 500 miles south of us.) All was not bad however, my own cozy bed was there waiting for me. Nothing like home sweet home.

Contests:

Red= Entered in more than one category. More than one category is not tallied into club totals.

CWops Mini-CWT Test 0300Z Feb. 28, 2019

WN4AFP Single Op LP 10 Q's 100

CWops Mini-CWT Test 1900Z Feb 27, 2019

N4IQ S02R Single Op HP 84 Q's 6,972

WN4AFP Single Op LP 10 Q's 100

CW ops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z Feb 27, 2019

N4IQ S02R Single Op HP 85 6,545

North Carolina QSO Party Feb. 24, 2019

WB4HRL SO SSB HP 47 Ph. Q's 3,666

KG4IGC SO SSB LP 1 Ph. Q 2

North America QSO Party, RTTY Feb.23, 2019

KS4YX Single Op LP 103 Q's	4,738
KG4IGC Single Op LP 58 Q'S	1,450
WU0B S02R Single Op LP 42 Q'S	882
NJ4F Single Op LP 13 Q'S	104

South Carolina QSO Party: Feb. 23, 2019

NI7R SO FIXED D LP 135 CW Q's	21,120
KS4YX SO FIXE DIG M LP 4 CW Q's 36 Ph. Q's 141 Dig Q's	146,914
WB4HRL SOFSSB HP 157 Ph Q's	12,850
K4C (W1TEF) 272 CW Q's 154 Ph Q's	71,516

CQ 160- Meter Contest, SSB Feb. 22, 2019

K70M Single Op HP 142 Q's	15,153
NJ4F Single Op HP 54 Q's	3,240
KG4IGC Single Op LP	8,160

Club Total: 26,553

ARRL DX Contest: Feb.16, 2019

NI7R SO Unlimited HP 512 Q'S	328,704
KG6MC SOAB HP 438 Q'S	289,710
K70M SOAB HP 381 Q'S	210,312
NJ4F 100 SOAB HP Q'S	21,000
WN4AFP SOAB LP 215 Q'S	78,597

Club Total: 909,423

CQ WPX RTTY Contest: Feb. 9, 2019

NI7R	SOHP 322 Q's	147,440
NJ4F	SOHP 102 Q's	24,816
KG6MC	SOHP 54 Q'S	4,876
NJ4F SOAB TB-Wires HP 102 Q'S		24,816
KG6MC SOAB TB-Wires HP 54 Q'S		4,876
KG4IGC	SOAB LP 518 Q'S	414,834
KS4YX	SOAB LP 464 Q'S	262,330
AJ4UQ	SOAB LP 75 Q'S	10,624
NE4EA	SOAB LP 56 Q'S	9,200
WN4AFP	40 LP	106,240
WN4AFP SOSB 40 TB-WIRES LP		106,240

Club Total: 980,360

British Columbia QSO Party Feb. 2, 2019

WN4AFP Single Op CW LP 6 CW Q's 164

Mexican RTTY Contest: Feb. 2, 2019

K7OM SOHP 195 Q's 22,842

Vermont QSO Party Feb. 2, 2019

WN4AFP SOLP 6 CW Q's 3 Ph. Q's 180

Upcoming Contests:

[NCCC RTTY Sprint](#), Mar 1, 0145z to Mar 1, 0215z; RTTY; Bands: (see rules); Serial No. + Name + QTH; Logs due: February 24.

[QRP Fox Hunt](#), Mar 1, 0200z to Mar 1, 0330z; CW; Bands: 80m Only; RST + (state/province/country) + name + power output; Logs due: February 21.

[NCCC Sprint Ladder](#), Mar 1, 0230z to Mar 1, 0300z; CW; Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6m; Serial No. + Name + QTH; Logs due: February 24.

[Novice Rig Roundup](#), Mar 2, 0000z to Mar 10, 2359z; CW; Bands: 80, 40, 15, 10, 2m; RST + QTH + Name + Class; Logs due: April 9.

[ARRL International DX Contest, SSB](#), Mar 2, 0000z to Mar 4, 0000z; SSB; Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m; W/VE: RS + (state/province), non-W/VE: RS + power; Logs due: March 10.

[Wake-Up! QRP Sprint](#), Mar 2, 0600z to Mar 2, 0629z and, Mar 2, 0630z to Mar 2, 0659z and, Mar 2, 0700z to Mar 2, 0729z and, Mar 2, 0730z to Mar 2, 0800z; CW; Bands: 40, 20m; RST + Serial No. + suffix of previous QSO ("QRP" for 1st QSO); Logs due: March 9.

[Open Ukraine RTTY Championship](#), Mar 2, 1800z to Mar 2, 2059z (Low Band) and, Mar 2, 2100z to Mar 2, 2359z (Low Band) and, Mar 3, 0800z to Mar 3, 1059z (High Band) and, Mar 3, 1100z to Mar 3, 1359z (High Band); RTTY; Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m; 2-letter regional abbrev. (state/province/canton, etc.) + Serial No.(restart serial no. for high band); Logs due: March 18.

[UBA Spring Contest, CW](#), Mar 3, 0700z to Mar 3, 1100z; CW; Bands: 80m Only; ON: RST + Serial No. + UBA Section, non-ON: RST + Serial No.; Logs due: March 17.

[SARL Hamnet 40m Simulated Emergency Contest](#), Mar 3, 1200z to Mar 3,

1400z; SSB; Bands: 40m Only; Class A: RS + Serial No. (starting with 201), Class B: RS + Serial No. (starting with 401), Class C: RS + Serial No. (starting with 601), Class D: RS + Serial No. (starting with 801), Non-participants: RS + Serial No. (starting with 001); Logs due: March 10.

[NSARA Contest](#), Mar 3, 1200z to Mar 3, 1600z and, Mar 3, 1800z to Mar 3, 2200z; CW, SSB, Digital; Bands: 80m Only; Nova Scotia: RS(T) + county, non-NS: RS(T); Logs due: April 2.

[RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data](#), Mar 4, 2000z to Mar 4, 2130z; RTTY, PSK; Bands: 80m Only; RST + Serial No.; Logs due: March 5.

[ARS Spartan Sprint](#), Mar 5, 0200z to Mar 5, 0400z; CW; Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m; RST + (state/province/country) + Power; Logs due: March 7.

[AGCW YL-CW Party](#), Mar 5, 1900z to Mar 5, 2100z; CW; Bands: 80m Only; YL: RST + Serial No. + "/YL/" + name, OM: RST + Serial No. + "/" + name; Logs due: March 31.

[QRP Fox Hunt](#), Mar 6, 0200z to Mar 6, 0330z; CW; Bands: 80m Only; RST + (state/province/country) + name + power output; Logs due: February 21.

[Phone Fray](#), Mar 6, 0230z to Mar 6, 0300z; SSB; Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15m; NA: Name + (state/province/country), non-NA: Name; Logs due: February 22.

[CWops Mini-CWT Test](#), Mar 6, 1300z to Mar 6, 1400z and, Mar 6, 1900z to Mar 6, 2000z and, Mar 7, 0300z to Mar 7, 0400z; CW; Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m; Member: Name + Member No., non-Member: Name + (state/province/country); Logs due: February 23.

[UKEICC 80m Contest](#), Mar 6, 2000z to Mar 6, 2100z; CW; Bands: 80m Only; 4-Character grid square; Logs due: February 27.

VHF+ CONTESTS

See [NCCC Sprint Ladder](#), [South Carolina QSO Party](#), [North Carolina QSO Party](#), above.

Solar WX:

[Tamitha Skov : Launching Into the Wind: Solar Storm Forecast 02-27-2019](#)

[The K7RA Solar Update \(02/15/2019\)](#)

Upcoming Hamfests:

Atlanta Hamfest and ARRL Georgia Section Convention
Saturday, June 1, 2019 at 8 AM – 3 PM pin Sponsored by the The Atlanta Radio Club W4DOC & The Kennehoochee Amateur Radio Club W4BTI

Jim R. Miller Park & Event Center, 2245 Callaway Road SW, Marietta, Georgia 30008

SFOTA:

Current Leaderboard

2019 OVERALL STANDINGS

	CALL	Contests	CW QSO'S	SSB QSO'S	DIGITAL QSO'S	RTTY QSO'S	TOTAL QSO'S
1)	N4IQ	12	1564	0	8	1487	3059
2)	WN4AFP	35	1292	563	0	290	2145
3)	KG4IGC	8	255	644	0	1089	1988
4)	KS4YX	8	280	49	38	1086	1453
5)	K7OM	8	641	143	0	647	1431
6)	NI7R	4	913	0	0	322	1235
7)	KG6MC	7	719	79	0	54	852
8)	N4VZ	2	0	171	232	241	644
9)	WB4HRL	7	0	463	0	0	463
10)	NJ4F	5	280	54	0	115	449
11)	W1TEF	1	272	68	0	0	340
12)	WU0B	5	0	188	0	42	230
13)	K4KWB	1	0	125	0	0	125

14) NE4EA	3	0	43	2	74	119
15) AJ4UQ	3	1	0	0	100	101
16) KD4CB	1	0	11	0	0	11

2019 INDIVIDUAL MODE STANDINGS

CALL	CW QSO'S	CALL	SSB QSO'S	CALL	DIGITAL QSO'S	CALL	RTTY QSO'S
N4IQ	1564	KG4IGC	644	N4VZ	232	N4IQ	1487
WN4AFP	1292	WN4AFP	563	KS4YX	38	KG4IGC	1089
NI7R	913	WB4HRL	463	N4IQ	8	KS4YX	1086
KG6MC	719	WU0B	188	NE4EA	2	K7OM	647
K7OM	641	N4VZ	171			NI7R	322
KS4YX	280	K7OM	143			WN4AFP	290
NJ4F	280	K4KWB	125			N4VZ	241
W1TEF	272	KG6MC	79			NJ4F	115
KG4IGC	255	W1TEF	68			AJ4UQ	100
AJ4UQ	1	NJ4F	54			NE4EA	74
		KS4YX	49			KG6MC	54
		NE4EA	43			WU0B	42
		KD4CB	11				

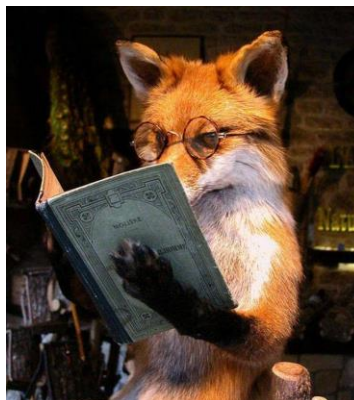
From QST:

2018 IARU HF World Championship Results (p.91)

Top 10 US and Canada

Single Op. Unlimited Phone Only Low Power

#6 WU0B 37,947



SFCG Newsletter March 2019